

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"It's like this huge, concrete thick wall that you cannot get through."

—Rose Inman, 58, who is facing foreclosure in Seattle, on trying to get help from a mortgage company to save her house

See story on Page 14

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PHOTOS BY JAMES WARDEN/Stars and Stripes

Above: A 1st Squadron, 40th Cavalry Regiment soldier searches for hidden caches during a patrol Wednesday near Khar Kheyl, Afghanistan. Below: Sgt. 1st Class Andrew Spath, a platoon sergeant in 1st Squadron, 40th Cavalry Regiment, keeps track of items from one of seven weapons caches that soldiers found near Khar Kheyl.

Wicked: Troops must use evolving tactics against Taliban

WICKED, FROM PAGE 1

First Lt. Eugene Miranda, the leader of a platoon attached to Troop C, said insurgents intimidate village elders and use the towns as a shield. Most villages have at least one Taliban spy. Locals are so sensitive to Taliban presence that Miranda calls the enemy fighters "black sheep" as a way to help the locals feel more comfortable discussing insurgent activity.

But a comprehensive approach can help curb these influences where any one tactic alone might fail. Tribes are the center of relationship networks in Troop C's area, in contrast to other parts of Paktia province where individual villages are key. So the unit has been singling out "areas of tribal influence" to beef up presence, improve security and increase the Afghan government's influence — primarily through the Afghan army and police.

Monday marked the start of a three-day patrol in the Toro Kheyl tribal area. The soldiers spent part of the time having tea with local leaders, part of the time patrolling and part of



the time searching for weapons caches. Along the way, they visited multiple villages and passed many outlying homes.

"Not many people get the chance to come to Afghanistan and climb to the top of a mountain

looking for weapons and insurgents," said Pfc. Justin Moore.

The soldiers collect information and build relationships in the tribal areas, so military leaders can put the pieces together to form a clear picture.

"I'm not looking at individual villages. I'm looking at tribes," Erickson said.

Terrain and development can make it hard for enemy fighters to change their tactics completely. The Americans are well aware that the Gerda Serai District bazaar is a popular site for recruiting insurgents and staging roadside attacks, said Sgt. 1st Class Andrew Spath, a platoon sergeant in a platoon attached to Troop C. The heavy traffic through the market makes it easy for enemy fighters to communicate without raising too many eyebrows. Insurgents often ferret away their weapons in the hills within an easy walk of the shops.

Minutes after Spath made those comments, a patrol through the Khar Kheyl area just outside the market uncovered seven cache sites filled with homemade explosives, roadside bomb materials, Afghan army clothing and assorted weaponry.

"It totally messes with their world," Erickson said.

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Globetrotters

For teens overseas, change is constant, and quite an education

BY TRAVIS J. TRITTEN
Stars and Stripes

Madelyn Service imagines life is easier for other teenagers. Most American teens get to grow up in one place and make old friends. But for Service, it is different.

The 15-year-old has already moved six times with her Navy family and now attends high school in western Japan.

Each move means losing friends and rebuilding her life, sometimes halfway around the world.

"I find it harder each time," said Service, who is a student at Sasebo Naval Base. "It's harder for me to fit in here."

Thousands of military teens are stationed overseas with their families and face the same situation. They struggle to find a place for themselves while far from their home country and isolated within the highly structured and mobile culture of the U.S. military.

For many, the experience leaves them strong, resilient and worldly. Others act out under the pressures of military life overseas, sometimes resorting to vandalism or drug use, according to military counselors.

"I think we see a whole array of how they respond," said Mary Vance, a counselor with the Fleet and Family Support Center at Sasebo.

Unlike their counterparts in the United States, overseas military teens face constant moves, strict military lifestyles and must adapt to different cultures.

"I don't like to have to meet new people and make new friends. I do it but I don't like it. That's the worst thing about living in the military and I wouldn't want to do that to my family."

— Chase Lumm, 15, Lakenheath, England

"People understand what you have been through because they've had to do the same thing."

— Heather Knight, 13, Yokota, Japan

"I've had so many chances to be the new kid."

— Quincy Bazen, 15, Naples, Italy

"I would have to behave a specific way to reflect well on my parents. I want everyone to see my parents are great people. I kind of hold back my teenage urges and be more polite and speak when I'm spoken too. I need to behave a certain way as an officer's daughter."

— Amanda Norris, 18, Okinawa, Japan

"It's made me see the world from a different perspective. I never wanted to leave (the U.S.). Now, all I want to do is travel."

— Ariel Dunbar, 15, Seoul, South Korea

"A lot of teens think it's going to be great moving overseas and then they get here and it's not. It's a very stressful environment ... the culture shock, parents getting deployed, teens getting harassed by security for just hanging out and the schools are a lot stricter than in the States."

— Gary Cox, 18, Yokosuka, Japan

"In the States, when you get in a fight, you just get in trouble. Here if you get in a fight, you get in trouble at school and then you get in trouble with the command. If you do some of the simplest things, you have to go see a base inspector and then your parents get mad at you because they're in trouble too."

— Bre'anna Jones, 18, Okinawa, Japan

"There aren't really any community secrets. It's pretty nice, actually. You can have discussions with different people and they all know what you're talking about."

— Evan Lobeto, 16, Daegu, South Korea

Moving

Vance said moving is often the biggest concern for teenagers.

"They talk about the difficulty of starting over," Vance said. "In a one way, it builds resiliency. Going to college is not as big of a deal because they have been uprooted and moved many times."

But for teens, the payoffs of constant moves are not always clear at the time.

Jasmine Balasa, 13, of Sasebo, counts on her fingers to remember all the places she has lived with her Navy family.

"I just feel like, 'What am I going to do?'" Balasa said. "You are the new girl from who-knows-where and [the other teens] all have their own friends."

Teenagers are especially focused on friendships and the bonds they form with others, said Linda Lassiter, a child and teen counselor with the Sasebo Fleet and Family Support Center.

Breaking those bonds during a move can create huge stress in a teenager's life and lead to depression or avoidance of school, Lassiter said.

Courtney Bazen, a mother in Naples, Italy, said her most difficult job is telling her three children that it is time to move again.

The Bazen family moved constantly over her husband's 24-year Navy career. Her oldest son, Quincy Bazen, 15, has enrolled in 10 schools in the past 10 years.

A recent move forced Quincy to leave

his first real girlfriend behind in Germany. Despite attempts to keep a long-distance relationship, Bazen watched her son go through a painful separation.

"Don't just tell them 'Oh, you'll get over it,'" she said. "It's a real loss. Listen to them. Ask them, 'Are you OK?'"

Military culture

Between the stresses of moving, overseas military teenagers deal with the same angst and uncertainty that has always afflicted teens.

It is a time when many people push the bounds of authority and search for their own identity — activities that can be complicated by the isolated and strict military environment at overseas posts, Lassiter said.

"So much of our lives and their lives revolve around the base and there is not a strong civilian component," Lassiter said. "Here almost everybody is tied to the base ... That is hard for a lot of them when they move from the States."

The isolation can cause frustration among teens and sometimes rebellion, from minor issues such as disrespect or defiance to more severe misbehavior such as breaking the law, she said.

Gary Cox, an 18-year-old high school student from Yokosuka Naval Base in Japan, said military teens live in a stressful environment overseas that includes harassment from base security for hanging out and much stricter discipline at school.

Unusual on the military base, Cox said.

"I get confused with being a sailor all the time ... people will tell me that I'm not supposed to be wearing earrings or my pants are too baggy," he said. "I wouldn't get that in the States."

SEE TEENS ON PAGE 4

A World of Experience

Military brats talk about the pressures and privileges of growing up overseas



From bottom to top: Tim Eckles, Chase Lumm, both 15, and Jon Reese, 16, all students at Lakenheath High School in England, have an impromptu wrestling match at the base community center. The three have only been friends a few years, but say their close bond helps them cope with life in the military community.

CHARLIE REED
Stars and Stripes

A World of Experience

KATIE LYNCH



Grade: 11th, Age: 17

School: Vicenza High School

Places lived: Emerald Isle, N.C.; Sigonella, Sicily; Aviano, Italy; Vicenza, Italy

Favorite assignment: Vicenza, Italy

What is your favorite keepsake or souvenir? My Venetian masks

Plans for the future: Attend University of North Carolina

We need to talk. These four dreaded words have a completely different meaning for military kids than they do for most. For military kids they can only mean one thing — it is time for another move. The last time I heard these four words, they were followed by another five telling me that we were moving to Italy. After hearing this news I did not throw a fit, slam the door in my parents' faces, or tell them that I hate them. Instead, I gave an indifferent look and thought, "What's another three years in Italy going to hurt?"

This is my third time living in Italy. After the second time, living overseas begins to lose its surrealism. Living overseas can be difficult for many kids, especially those who deny the fact that they are living in an exciting new country instead of embracing it.

After the second time, living overseas begins to lose its surrealism.

These are the kids that find the transition hard and are slower at making new friends.

I am grateful to my parents for making the moves much easier than they are for many. They encourage me and my siblings to become as involved in the community as we can as

soon as we arrive yet give us a shoulder to cry on if we come down with a case of homesickness.

Adaptation is a difficult skill to acquire and can only be done with practice. During my first major move, to Aviano, Italy, I was slow at making friends and separated myself from other kids. For some reason, I had the idea that the other kids would not want to be my friend because they already had their friends. It was not until a girl in my computer class told me just to stay by her all day and introduced me to her friends that I realized the people there wanted to get to know me.

I have come into the philosophy that people do want to get to know a new person and it is worth talking to and trying to make friends with everybody. As military kids, we are required to adapt to new environments quickly if we are to flourish in our new home. We learn to face the difficulties of being a new face many times before most kids in the States must do the same when they leave for college.

Some would disagree, but I believe the benefits outweigh the small inconveniences. Even though it may not be readily obvious, we acquire people skills and new perspectives that will benefit us throughout our lives. As military kids, we learn to see a move not as another good-bye to friends but to a new opportunity to make new friends and new memories.

This involvement allows us to make friends quickly and to feel part of the community almost instantly.

STAN SCHROCK



Year: 11th, Age: 17

School: Kadena High School, Kadena Air Base

Places lived: Naples, Italy (2 years); Okinawa, Japan (15 years)

Favorite assignment: Okinawa

What is your favorite keepsake or souvenir: Okinawa soccer tattoo

Plans for the future: Play soccer in college and on a higher level and later become a sports journalist.

Day after day I hear how much better "the States" are and how terrible life is over here compared to "back home."

This is understandable because most military families move every few years. As a son of two DODDS teachers, I have lived on Okinawa for 15 years, saying goodbye to those leaving every year. This continual loss of friendships can eat away at a teenager.

I could compare myself with the average teenager living in the U.S., who grows up in the same town and never leaves their state. I've grown up here and I know the island way of life. I leave Okinawa for only about three months a year, usually for summer break and athletic events.

Moving can be one of the most dreaded parts of a teenager's life. Other than the repeated change of location, the most difficult part is having to make new friends. When PCS season rolls around, I see kids full of anger and resentment because they have to leave their friends and home behind. I hear students complaining about how there is nothing to do overseas or how their chances to get noticed by a college are weakened. But I know

This continual loss of friendships can eat away at a teenager.

Teens: Adapting is a source of pride

TEENS, FROM PAGE 3

Bre'anna Jones, 18, from Okinawa, said teachers have reprimanded her for showing a tattoo, saying it should not be visible because her parent is in the military.

"I'm not in the military and I didn't choose for my mother to be in the military," she said.

Diversity

While some struggle with moving or military discipline, overseas teens also see a major advantage to growing up far outside the United States, according to counselors.

"I think they see [multiculturalism] as a strength and I think a lot of them are very proud about being able to adapt," Vance said.

Overseas military bases are surrounded by foreign cultures and are often a patchwork of ethnicities on the inside as well.

"Even within the base community, it is very common for them to have friends that speak two languages fluently," Vance said.

Tina Sparks, the child and youth program director in Sasebo, said local teens can quickly relate to other cultures and feel comfortable around people who are different.

"For the most part, our kids accept it very easily and you don't see the teens seeing the difference in other people," Sparks said.

Evan Lobeto, 16, a high school student in Daegu, South Korea, said the diversity of the military community has made him worldly but also separated him from less-traveled teens in the United States.

"It's a lot easier to blend in with the people in a military community, because they come from different places in the world," he said. "It's a lot harder to fit in in the States. Most of the kids have lived there their whole lives and have the same idea of what's cool."

Not all cultural experiences are easy. The plunge into a foreign country offered some difficult lessons for Chase Lumm, 15, of RAF Lakenheath in England.

Lumm said making English friends has been difficult at times and he was even punched in the face once by an English boy in his neighborhood — an extreme example of how Americans are singled out for being different.

The experiences made him empathize more with outsiders like himself who have difficulties fitting in, Lumm said.

"I think I am more open-minded and accepting of people," he said. "I look at things differently and other nationalities from a different perspective."

Adulthood

Military teens often have strong feelings and opinions about life overseas, but many of the long-term effects may not become visible until adulthood, Lassiter said.

The travel, culture and open-mindedness can be real advantages later in life, while more difficult



SANDRA JONTZ/Stars and Stripes

Quincy Bazen, 15, rehearses for the upcoming Naples Musical and Entertainment Productions' presentation of "High School Musical."

experiences such as moving can create problems, Lassiter said.

"For some people, they really reap the benefits from the learning experiences," Lassiter said. "Some people had such a hard time they fear change and they don't like to change their environment."

In the end, acknowledging the good and the bad is important for former military teens trying to understand themselves, Lassiter said.

"We all have our own individual experiences that make us what we are," she said.

Monique Rose is still searching for the meaning in her own military experiences.

Rose, now 20 and a college student in New York City, said she moved between Japanese and American social circles as a mixed-race black and Japanese teenager growing up at Yokosuka Naval Base in Japan.

It was valuable training as communication and relationships are increasingly global, she said.

"I think that being tolerant towards differences is essential to a world full of shifting and changing people," Rose said.

Meanwhile, Rose said she struggled at first to overcome stifling military life — the small community, conformity, myriad regulations.

"When it became time to fill out college applications for extremely competitive schools, I couldn't really place what distinguished me from tens of thousands of other applicants," she said.

Rose said that episode seems absurd to her now. "Now, I see that I'll be the outsider of the group wherever I go in the world due to my upbringing."

Bradley Forbes, 17, is still an insider.

The 17-year-old is a senior at Yokota Air Base and surrounded by a small group of other globetrotting military teenagers who understand him because they are also "used to moving around all the time."

Forbes said he is looking to the future after high school at Yokota Air Base in Japan.

But he is also trying to enjoy the present.

"Not many people get to do this," he said.

Ashley Rowland, Sandra Jontz, Charlie Reed, David Carter, Cindy Fisher and Bryce DuBee contributed to this story. E-mail Travis J. Trittent at: trittent@pstripes.osd.mil

all about overseas life and the opportunities it can provide.

While the DODDS' curriculum will get you prepared for college, military and school-sponsored events such as essay contests give students a chance to add noteworthy items to their resumes and college applications.

Colleges and businesses look for something unique in their applicants. And an applicant living overseas will stand out. The college will notice where you've lived and the kind of opportunities you took advantage of. For example, working part time at the golf course and volunteering in the community.

As an athlete, I know that it can be extremely challenging to prove my abilities to colleges that are on the other side of the world. But you need to be aggressive. I am currently compiling videos to send out to colleges in hopes of a landing a scholarship. At this same time, I am working hard to keep up my grade-point average. Many people don't know the hardships that military and even civilian teenagers go through living overseas. But we must take advantage of the opportunities we are given and have no regrets. There is no changing the fact that we live overseas, so make the best of it.

A World of Experience

DYLAN LONERGAN



Grade: 12th, **Age:** 17
Places lived: New York; Spokane, Wa; Colorado Springs, Colo.; York County, Va.; Okinawa, Japan
Favorite assignment: Okinawa
What is your favorite keepsake or souvenir? My key chain of trinkets
Plans for the future: Going to Columbia University to get a degree in law and eventually work in the government.

Since the age of three, I have lived in transit; my life has been a conglomeration of road trips, plane tickets and stamps on my passport. My various homes have blurred and faded as they have been left behind. My travels have taken me through every U.S. state (except Alaska), a small part of Canada, four states in Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, Guam, Tokyo, and Okinawa. I have lived as a traveler and have explored portions of the road map of the world. My most recent and most influential journey has been my family's stay on Okinawa.

In 2005, my family received news that my father was being transferred to Kadena Air Base. The idea of Japan stuck in my head. I'd seen movies like "Lost in Translation" and seen videos filmed in Tokyo, but I had never seen anything from this seemingly remote little island. The idea of living on Okinawa was fantastic and even today, I pause and reflect upon the fact that I am actually living in Japan.

Living on Okinawa does have its downs: I can't drive off base until I am 18, which severely limits my opportunities. And as a military dependent living abroad, I am held to a higher standard than someone living in America. In the eyes of a foreign national, I represent America, and therefore must be mindful of my behavior. Despite these restrictions, I have taken full advantage of this unique opportunity.

I have spent hours sitting on the sea wall and watching the waves lap against the jacks. Sometimes the best things are so simple — that's what makes Okinawa so great, the simplicity.

Although it can be difficult trying to pick a stateside college while living overseas, I was able to visit two of my choices — Fordham University and Columbia University — while I was in New York City during my summer vacation. I'm headed to Columbia.

As my time on Okinawa comes to a close, I have been thinking about how thankful I am that my dad extended a year so I could graduate here, and how much I will miss living here. I'm positive that I will miss the exhilaration of diving off the Yomitan Docks, the uniqueness of left-hand side driving, and the serenity found at the sea wall.

I'm not sure where my life will take me or where I will end up, but I know that my mind will always wander back to Okinawa from time to time. I'm positive that my time on Okinawa will remain as an important chapter in my life. Though I may have spent the last three and half years being lulled by this small Pacific island, the experience has broadened my horizons and prepared me for what is to come.

My various homes have blurred and faded as they have been left behind.

ANGEL E. FRADEN



Grade: 9th, **Age:** 15
School: Matthew C. Perry High School, Iwakuni, Japan
Places lived: Oceanside, Calif.; Jacksonville, N.C.; Orlando, Fla.; Iwakuni, Japan
Favorite assignment: MCCS Iwakuni, Japan

What is your favorite keepsake or souvenir? I don't have any physical items

that represent a keepsake, but my memories, pictures, and experiences are the souvenirs I'll that will always stay with me.

Plans for the future: My plans are to finish high school, wherever we are stationed next (most likely Texas), and go to college in California.

I've grown to accept my unconventional fate as a military child. Living in a foreign country is an amazing experience, but by my third year in Iwakuni, I was more than ready to pack up my bags and head back to the States.

But something happened when I started eighth grade at Matthew C. Perry. I made tons of new friends, took some challenging classes, and — most importantly — got involved. I wrote for the school newspaper, joined the cross country team and played soccer on the high school team. That year, I was able to fully experience the base and all of its perks. It was the year that I slowly — very slowly — grew to love Iwakuni. That summer I again said goodbye to a lot of good friends. But as September approached, I felt almost anxious to start school again. I was no longer scared of starting the year off with new classes and new friends. In fact, the prospect made me wish that school would start earlier.

That year, I undoubtedly reached

EMILY EVANS ASHBY



Grade: 12th, **Age:** 17
School: Zama High School
Places lived: Vicenza, Italy; Rota, Spain; Kaiserslautern, Germany; Lajes, Portugal; and Tokyo
Favorite assignment: Lajes, Portugal
What is your favorite keepsake or souvenir? My traditional Portuguese riding chaps, "polainas de pregos"
Plans for the future: study International Relations at Middlebury College and hopefully work for the American Embassy in Portugal after graduation.

Possibly the most interesting result of living abroad is the introductions to non-military Americans when I'm back in the States.

After the cursory name exchange, the next question out of the person's mouth is, without fail, "So, where are you from?" When I reply Tokyo, a series of rapid-fire queries inevitably follows:

What are you doing there?
 Do you not like the U.S.?
 Do they make you eat raw fish?
 And my personal favorite: Do you speak Chinese?

Still, it's easy for me to forgive the questioners' ignorance. After all, they have not experienced the trials and triumphs of being a military kid living abroad.

A stroll down the hallways of Zama American High School is a glimpse into the diverse makeup of the military. Students are of all races and backgrounds. And it is impossible to make assumptions based on appearances; everybody here has a story to tell. I found out recently that a girl who sits behind me in Japanese class speaks fluent Dutch, and one of my closest friends casually mentioned last week that she was in Lebanon visiting relatives during the Hamas turmoil.

Perhaps more interesting than the melting pot of kids is their shared mentality:

... many of us have lived abroad for so many years that we aren't even aware of what we're missing.

... many of us have lived abroad for so many years that we aren't even aware of what we're missing.

"We're all in this together." So many have had a parent deploy or been told they have 30 days to pack up and move their life elsewhere, that tales of woe are met with empathy and encouragement. We tell the unlucky person that we've all been there, and we've all survived.

Everywhere I've lived there have always been people whom I affectionately term "perpetual statesiders." These kids, who had never lived outside of the U.S. before and have lived abroad for only a couple of years, bring with them their strange style and unknown slang. And their complaints.

Some of these complaints I recognize as valid. I suppose the problem is that many of us have lived abroad for so many years that we aren't even aware of what we're missing. I would never have guessed that high school football games draw hundreds of fans, that limos are the transportation mode of choice for prom, or that debate and lacrosse teams even exist.

Because I've grown so comfortable living overseas, my oddest experiences are when I go "home" to visit relatives in the U.S. I'm unsettled hearing English all around me and attract stares for my unconscious head-bowing of thanks. For these reasons and so many others, my upcoming move to the states for college is constantly on my mind.

I imagine myself going to America next fall just as my Danish great-grandfather did so many years ago, leaving my home, friends and cherished memories overseas and arriving with suitcase in hand, anxious but excited at the prospect of a life I've never known.

To read the full essays excerpted here, as well as essays from other teens, go to stripes.com

the pinnacle of my school life. I knew everyone in school, played tennis and soccer and participated in countless after-school activities. I also played in the high school jazz band, became co-editor of the school newspaper and met some really cool people — all the while maintaining a 3.8 GPA.

I noticed a recognizable difference in myself. I walked down the hallways with confidence and purpose, feeling comfortable with myself and everyone else around me.

But then my parents began talking about moving; we are scheduled to leave in March 2010. The old me would've been ridiculously eager to move stateside, but the person who I am now isn't eager at all. I have literally grown up on this base and am a completely different person.

Now, when I make my way to a new high school, I won't think twice about making friends, joining sports teams or doing extracurricular activities, because I thrived at MC Perry. And who's to say I can't do so anywhere else I go?

Now, when I make my way to a new high school, I won't think twice about making friends ...

GW nuclear operators get big re-up bonuses

Fifteen sailors received nearly \$90,000 each in retention-driven bonus program

BY DAVID J. CARTER
Stars and Stripes

Fifteen sailors on the USS George Washington received a combined \$1.3 million in re-enlistment bonuses during a May 8 ceremony aboard the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier.

The sailors, all nuclear power operators, took advantage of a three-month, retention-driven program that allowed them to receive about \$90,000 each.

The re-enlistments extended each sailor's obligated service an additional five or six years.

"We've had issues with manning in certain rates," said Capt. William Silkman, the ship's reactor officer.

"This shows that people at the highest levels of the nuclear program care and are doing something about it."

Dozens of ratings in the Navy currently qualify for re-enlistment bonuses, but amounts vary depending on an individual's specialty.

"The demands of our job are quite rigorous," said Master Chief Petty Officer Peter White, the nuclear department's leading chief

petty officer.

"The level of proficiency and knowledge are constantly tested and evaluated."

According to the Navy's Web site, students in the Navy's nuclear power program endure an intense academic path, with courses in calculus, nuclear physics, thermodynamics, chemistry, reactor principles and electrical engineering.

"From the beginning of our training, it's ingrained into us the accountability that comes with what we do," said Petty Officer 1st Class Brandon Nadell, who has been a nuclear operator for seven years.

"Some of these kids are 18 and 19 years old, but collectively they're operating the nuclear reactors on a warship. ... That's a very high level of responsibility."

"Re-enlistment programs like this help us keep people that we want to keep — the ones that are motivated," Nadell said.

"Nuclear operators are highly sought-after in the civilian world, so these types of programs help us compete with them."

Petty Officer 2nd Class Mi-

"The demands of our job are quite rigorous."

Master Chief Petty Officer Peter White

leading chief of nuclear department



RACHEL CLAYTON/Courtesy of the U.S. NAVY

Nuclear power specialists on the USS George Washington re-upped for a combined selective re-enlistment bonus of more than \$1.3 million dollars.

chalina Kulikowski said there's no animosity between the nuclear operators and other sailors aboard the ship who don't receive large bonuses.

"The training we go through and the hours we work are pretty well known," she said.

"We're the first ones to get here and the last to leave, and I think people recognize that. ... The bonuses are well deserved."

E-mail David Carter at: carterd@pstripes.osd.mil

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Task Force Wild Card hones night moves

BY FRANKLIN FISHER
Stars and Stripes

YANGGU, South Korea — Amid the smell of jet fuel and the roar of helicopter engines, U.S. and South Korean forces Thursday carried out an elaborate night air assault exercise that drilled both sides in the methods of shuttling infantry to battle under cover of darkness.

The exercise in the remote reaches of northeastern Gangwon Province saw U.S. helicopters ferry nearly 500 South Korean combat troops and 11 vehicles from a South Korean army installation here in Yanggu to a landing zone near Inje, about 12½ miles east, under mock combat conditions.

The night airlift capability the Americans can provide is beneficial for South Korean forces, said Col. Jung Kang-ho, commanding officer of the South Korean army's 32nd Infantry Regiment.

"Night air assault is sudden attack" in the dark, he said, and therefore can give South Korean forces the advantage of surprise over an enemy force, he said.

His infantry as well as South Korean helicopters joined forces with about 350 troops of the U.S. Army's 2nd Combat Aviation Brigade, and 21 of its Black Hawk, Chinook and Apache helicopters, along with other 2nd Infantry Division supporting units, all part of a U.S.-South Korean force called Task Force Wild Card.

Thursday's night air assault capped about two weeks of task force rehearsals.

Under cool, clear skies and with no moonlight, infantrymen of Jung's regiment took up concealed positions behind



BRAD W. COOPER/Courtesy of the U.S. Army

U.S. helicopters prepare to ferry South Korean infantrymen to a landing zone Thursday on the runway at a South Korean army installation in Gangwon Province, South Korea, as part of a night air assault exercise.

a treeline beside an airstrip here and waited while a line of Black Hawk and Chinook helicopters appeared on the horizon, touched down and lined up one behind the other down the length of the hard-surface runway.

Eventually, a few stars appeared in the sky. Parked in the darkness, the helicopters were murky, barely visible silhouettes.

Later, the flight line came alive with the sudden whirring of machinery and the smell of hot jet fuel as the pilots started their engines. Engine exhaust cast a warm layer of air that lingered at the

edges of the runway.

Then, at a signal from their leaders in this complex and tightly orchestrated exercise, the troops dashed single file for the open Black Hawk bays and pulled themselves aboard. Waiting crew chiefs with small flashlights got them seat-belted and safely in place.

The helicopters made return trips until all troops and equipment had been deposited on the landing zone.

"Main thing we keep our eye on is the safety of the soldiers coming on to the helicopter," said Spc. Weston Fenner, 26,

edges of the runway.

"To make sure they don't walk anywhere near the tail or anywhere the blades may be low. And also to assist them with their seat belts and their weapons. (Reminding them to) keep 'em pointed down, and that way it shoots through the floor and not through any crucial component of the helicopter and not through any person."

On Thursday night, Fenner was part of a Company A aircrew whose call sign was "Mustang 1" and consisted of Chief Warrant Officer 2 Paul Crandall, 28, of Boise, Idaho; Chief Warrant Officer 2 Steven Jordan, 33, of Enterprise, Ala.; and Spc. Ronald Melton, 31, of Campbellsville, Ky., also a crew chief.

For pilots, a key aim in an airlift is getting the troops to the destination on schedule, the pilots said.

"Put the troops [in] on time, plus or minus 30 seconds," said Crandall.

And if they see their speed will get them to the landing zone too soon or late, they need to immediately adjust speed so they arrive on time, Jordan said.

South Korean army Capt. Choi Sang-hwan of the 32nd Infantry Regiment's 1st Company, 1st Battalion said his men too had several things they had to get right in an air assault.

"One minute before [landing], we must check our weapons, and also get off and go in right direction," taking up positions in an already assigned sector of the landing zone, he said.

E-mail Franklin Fisher at: fisherf@pstripes.osd.mil

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DOD schools to let children of fallen stay

DODEA policy change no longer requires families to get waiver approval

BY JEFF SCHOGOL
Stars and Stripes

ARLINGTON, Va. — Children of fallen troops can continue attending Defense Department schools in the United States all the way through high school, the Department of Defense Education Activity announced Thursday evening.

Under the old policy, children of the fallen could remain in Domestic Dependent Elementary and Secondary Schools until the transition from elementary to middle school or middle school to high school, according to a DODEA news release.

The move allows 13 families to decide whether they want their children to remain in DOD schools, said DODEA Director Shirley Miles.

"We are involved — of course — with families, and DODEA is more than just their academic achievement. It really is about the whole child and the assistance that we can give to their families," she said.

The new policy does not affect children in Department of Defense Dependents Schools, who move back to the U.S. after the loss of a loved one, said DODEA spokeswoman Connie Gillette.

"This policy is put in place to try to ease the difficulty of the family losing their loved one, and what we're trying to do is lessen the transitions that are going to happen, but if a child is transitioning from Europe to the States, they're already transitioning out of their school, so this wouldn't really help them," Gillette said.

If the spouse of a fallen service-

"This policy is put in place to try to ease the difficulty of the family losing their loved one."

Connie Gillette
DODEA spokeswoman

members can stay overseas per the terms of a Status of Forces Agreement, his or her children can continue to attend DODDS schools tuition-free on a "space-available basis," Miles said.

"There's always space available for them," she added.

DODEA has been working for about a year on the issue of allow-

ing children to continue to attend DOD schools, Miles said.

"After reflecting and getting input from some of the families and listening to the commands, I felt that we needed to re-evaluate the current policy," she said.

The issue made news in October, after the widow of a fallen soldier told Defense Secretary Robert Gates that her children needed to be granted a waiver each year to continue to attend schools on Fort Campbell, Ky.

"There's nothing in stone; there's nothing promising me to tell my children that they're not going to — that I don't have to beg and ask for them to ask to go to the school next year," said Dana Lamberson, whose husband, Sgt. 1st Class Randall L. Lamberson, died in Iraq in 2006.

Lamberson spoke at "Wounded

Warrior Family Summit" at the Pentagon, an October gathering of wounded servicemembers, their families and families of the fallen. She told Gates that safeguards needed to be in place to guarantee that children of fallen troops can continue to attend DOD schools through high school.

"Fix it," she told Gates bluntly. "Your voice has been heard," Gates replied.

Later that month, Gates said he was going to push very hard to allow children of the fallen to stay in DOD schools instead of having to apply for waivers.

"That doesn't sound right to me ... That's a problem I think we ought to be able to fix — but we'll see," he said.

E-mail Jeffrey Schogol at: jeffrey.schogol@stripes.osd.mil

AF cyber command will be at Lackland

Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Air Force officials selected Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio as the headquarters for the services' new cyber command, officials announced Friday.

Lackland was one of six locations considered for the new command.

Air Force officials did not give specifics for why the base was chosen, but said they based the decision on the facilities' access to scientific and technical expertise, as well as communication/bandwidth capabilities and basic infrastructure.

Air Force officials proposed a new major command for cyberwarfare last October.

The command will employ about 400 people and focus on defending Air Force networks against attacks from hackers or online terrorist cells.

BY LEO SHANE III
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Troops who've sold a home at a loss due to permanent change of station moves may be able to get back some of that money, under program changes announced Thursday.

Wounded servicemembers who sell their home and troops forced to relocate because of base closures will be able to recoup that loss, too. Pentagon officials estimated nearly 10,000 homeowners could be helped through the plan.

The money comes from the Defense Department's Housing Assistance Program, which received \$555 million under the economic recovery package passed in February.

On Thursday, Vice President Joe Biden told sailors aboard the USS Ronald Reagan in San Diego that the administration empathizes with the problems faced by military homeowners in difficult financial times.

"In the middle of a credit and housing crisis, we recognize that military families cannot generally choose when they move," he said. "So we used this half a billion dollars to dramatically expand what

was once a fairly small program assisting your families forced to relocate due to base closures and/or normal assignment rotations."

The 40-year-old housing program has been used in the past mainly for base closure cases.

Mike McCord, deputy comptroller for the defense department, said the expanded program will now give top priority to wounded troops and families of servicemembers killed overseas.

Wounded troops must show that they need to switch homes to help with rehabilitation, or because of medical retirement from the military. After that, any remaining funds will go to families affected by BRAC moves or PCS moves.

Under the program, servicemembers must try to sell their homes through normal commercial means at fair market value. If the sale price is less than what troops paid for the home, the housing program will refund troops up to 90 percent of the original cost of the property.

The program is retroactive to February 2006. So a servicemember who bought a home for \$200,000 five years ago but was forced to sell it last year for \$170,000 after a PCS move could receive \$10,000 under the plan

(since 90 percent of the original price would be \$180,000).

For wounded troops and families of deceased troops, that figure rises to 95 percent.

But there are restrictions. The program only covers U.S. home sales. The wounded warrior portions of the measure only cover troops injured during deployment since 2001. For PCS and BRAC moves, the homes must have been bought before July 2006.

And the \$555 million only covers PCS and wounded troops homes sales through the end of this year. Troops affected by BRAC moves have until 2012 to sell their homes, but McCord said extending the program for all groups past the end

of 2009 will require more money from Congress for next fiscal year.

In cases where troops cannot sell their homes after an extended period of time, or where the value of the property has dropped by more than 25 percent, HAP administrators will buy the property. Troops will only receive the 75 percent of the purchase price in those cases, and Director of Housing Competitive Sourcing Joe Sikes called that provision a last resort for homeowners.

All applications for the program will be taken through the HAP Web site, <http://hap.usace.army.mil>.

E-mail Leo Shane at: shane@stripes.osd.mil

Troops could recoup some lost cash from PCS home sales

BY LEO SHANE III
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Troops who've sold a home at a loss due to permanent change of station moves may be able to get back some of that money, under program changes announced Thursday.

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THE NEW SANNO

Swazi military benefiting from DOD program

Funds are being used to help curb the country's HIV infection rates

BY JOHN VANDIVER
Stars and Stripes

MBAKANE, Swaziland — At the military medical clinic in Swaziland's capital city, Swazi soldiers often have to do the work of doctors.

A doctor from China used to work there, but he took a trip home a few months ago and hasn't returned.

"We don't know if he's coming back," said Patrick Kunene, who manages the U.S. Defense Department's HIV prevention program in Swaziland. "That's what we need most. We need a doctor."

Nestled between South Africa and Mozambique, Swaziland is a country ravaged by AIDS. With an estimated 39 percent of the adult population infected by HIV/AIDS, according to the World Health Organization, the New Jersey-sized nation has the highest HIV rate in the world.

But it has no medical school, insufficient medical facilities and a shortage of doctors.

At the Phocweni Clinic, U.S. Defense Department funds are being used to train Swazi military medical staff and provide equip-

ment for testing. But doctors are in short supply.

"The short staffing is a challenge for us. Another challenge is, we need more facilities," said Lt. Banele Dlamini, a Swazi army nurse who works with HIV patients.

The clinic sees about 50 patients a day, with more than half coming from the civilian population, a common occurrence on the continent, Dlamini said.

The clinic's services are free and include access to anti-retroviral drugs provided through the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

The Defense Department's HIV/AIDS program has dedicated \$1.1 million to the efforts in Swaziland.

It also invests in other initiatives across Africa. So far, prevention messages have been delivered to 575,000 African troops and family members; 160,000 soldiers have been tested for HIV and 73 labs have received equipment.

The DOD program is expected to deliver a doctor later this year to the short-staffed Swaziland clinic.

But it is an uphill struggle to

HIV/AIDS in Swaziland

- With an estimated 39 percent of the adult population infected by HIV/AIDS, according to the World Health Organization, the New Jersey-sized nation has the highest HIV rate in the world.
- At the military clinic in Mbabane, peer-to-peer counseling programs are now being conducted regularly in the hope of getting troops to protect themselves.
- Because of a lack of standardized and well-analyzed data, it is unclear how many of Swaziland's military members are HIV-positive, said Col. Schuyler Geller, command surgeon for U.S. Africa Command.



PHOTOS BY JOHN VANDIVER/Stars and Stripes

Gen. William "Kip" Ward, left, visits with a Swazi soldier at a military health clinic in Mbabane, Swaziland. Pvt. Xolile Mbongo, center, works as an HIV counselor, promoting HIV prevention to other troops.

curb the country's HIV infection rates, which show no signs of decline, said Col. Schuyler Geller, command surgeon for U.S. Africa Command.

"You've got to break this cycle somehow. You've got to stop the transmission," Geller said on a recent trip to the country. Preaching abstinence and monogamy isn't the best way to go. You're running up against culture in some respects."

In a place where there is a history rooted in polygamy, concepts about relationships are different, he said. The message needs to be about prevention through condom use, Geller said.

"It's the only way in Swaziland," he said.

At the military clinic in Mbabane, peer-to-peer counseling programs are now being conducted regularly in the hope of getting troops to protect themselves.

"Because we're doing this focus on prevention, they're get-

ting more comfortable getting tested," said Pvt. Xolile Mbongo, whose full-time job is to counsel soldiers, family members and civilians who visit the clinic.

"Sometimes you feel depressed. The people have many problems," said Mbongo.

Gen. William "Kip" Ward, commander of U.S. Africa Command, toured the modest-looking clinic with Geller and others.

As he walked through the rooms, Ward wanted to know if the counseling was making a difference.

"Do they understand it and appreciate what's being said?" Ward asked Mbongo. "Do you sense that they're changing their behavior to stay well?"

Mbongo told the general she thought they were making a difference.

During a stop in the clinic's humble laboratory, Ward noticed some equipment donated by DOD.

"There aren't so many laboratories in this part of the world," John Kunene, the top health official for the Swaziland Ministry of Defense, told the general.

Dlamini said more people are becoming aware of the risks of unprotected sex, but people still wait too long to find out if they are HIV-positive.

"People come when they feel sick," he said.

The HIV rates and medical limitations affect the country's military force, Geller said. While HIV tests are required upon entering the Swazi military, follow-up testing is voluntary.

Because of a lack of standardized and well-analyzed data, it is unclear how many of Swaziland's military members are HIV-positive, Geller said.

"Getting data is the first thing. Knowing what to do with it is the second," Geller said.

E-mail John Vandiver at: vandiverj@estripes.osd.mil

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MOHAMMAD SAJJAD/AP

Residents of Chakdara, Pakistan, flee with their luggage Thursday. The offensive against Taliban insurgents in the Swat Valley area has driven at least 900,000 people from their homes, with 80,000 staying in several camps south of the battle zone.

Thousands flee ahead of impending Pakistan battle

The Associated Press

MINGORA, Pakistan — Pakistani forces killed 55 Taliban in the northwestern valley of Swat on Friday, the army said, and lifted a curfew to allow thousands more civilians to flee before troops assault the Taliban-held main town.

Pakistan has vowed to eliminate militants from Swat and two neighboring districts under intense American pressure for action against extremists threatening both nuclear-armed Pakistan and neighboring Afghanistan.

The military claimed Friday that militants were shaving off their beards and cutting their hair — flowing locks were fashionable among the Swat Taliban — in order to mingle with the refugees pouring out of the valley and escape.

Pakistan's military appealed to the civilians to point out any militants among them to security forces, and even issued a mobile phone number so people could pass on anonymous tips.

But an e-mailed army statement also said militants had mounted a counterattack, and that three soldiers were killed and 11 wounded in various clashes over the previous 24 hours.

The Swat operation is a key test of Pakistan's will and ability to roll back the advance of home-grown Taliban militants, who last month seized a district just 60 miles from the capital, Islamabad, under cover of a since-abandoned peace process.

The army says it is advancing slowly in an attempt to limit civilian casualties. Public opinion appears to support the offensive. But analysts say the mood will quickly turn against the pro-Western government if the fighting drags and civilian hardship mounts.

According to the United Na-

U.S. to expand training of Pakistani military forces

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Pentagon is looking at plans to significantly accelerate and expand the training of Pakistan's military to improve its ability to confront insurgents along the Afghanistan border, The Associated Press has learned.

U.S. officials are in early talks with Pakistani leaders to develop a program that could increase the number of U.S. special operations trainers in that country, with a goal of cutting the training time by as much as half for more than 9,000 members of Pakistan's paramilitary Frontier Corps, said a senior defense official.

Training the 14 battalion-size units of the Frontier Corps is expected to take at least four

years, but officials would like to both speed up their counterinsurgency training and expand the schooling to the Pakistani Army, said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because the discussions are preliminary and no decisions have been made.

The U.S. believes that escalating the training of Pakistan's Frontier Corps is critical as commanders struggle to reverse gains made in the region by the Taliban and al-Qaida. In addition, the Pentagon would like to broaden the training to include the Pakistan Army. U.S. special operations forces have been training the Pakistani special forces for some time, and the program was expanded to the Frontier Corps last October.

tions, more than 900,000 people have already abandoned the area amid escalating clashes, which the army says has left more than 800 militants and dozens of troops dead.

Some 80,000 refugees have moved into sweltering camps set up by the government and the United Nations, most of them near Mardan. In the latest exodus, columns of cars, trucks and horse-drawn carts packed with people and laden with bundles of possessions streamed out of Mingora, according to witnesses and television reports.

"I was waiting for the opportunity to leave Mingora. I got the chance today, and now I am going

to Mardan," a city just to the south, said Ismail Khan, a 66-year-old shooting his relatives onto a bus.

Khan said he had seen bodies lying in some of the fast-emptying town's streets, but he didn't know if they were militants or civilians.

The army's assault, launched last month, has mostly killed militants via airstrikes on remote camps and arms dumps. Dozens of troops have also died.

On Thursday army spokesman Maj. Gen. Athar Abbas said troops had advanced to within four miles of Mingora and urged people to flee before troops "take the militants to task in street-to-street fighting."

Rights group: U.S. procedures failing Afghan civilians

By AMIR SHAH
AND HEIDI VOGT
The Associated Press

KABUL — Human Rights Watch accused the U.S. military of not doing enough to reduce civilian casualties during battles in Afghanistan and called Friday for "fundamental changes" to prevent civilian deaths like those during an airstrike this month.

Two international troops, meanwhile, were killed in fighting with insurgents in the east Friday. NATO forces said the service-members were attacked while on patrol, but did not provide other details or their nationalities.

In the south, a provincial official said 22 Taliban militants, including three regional commanders, were killed in overnight fighting.

New York-based Human Rights Watch said its independent investigation into a May 4-5 clash that killed scores of people, including many women and children, found that measures put in place by the U.S. military to safeguard civilians were inadequate.

Afghans blame U.S. airstrikes for the deaths and destruction in two villages in western Farah province. American officials say the Taliban held villagers hostage during the fight.

It is unclear exactly how many people died in the fighting in the Bala Baluk district. The Afghan government has paid out compensation to families for 140 dead, based on a list gathered from villagers.

The U.S. military has said that figure is exaggerated, but has not given its own estimate.

If the Afghan toll is correct, it would be the largest case of civilian deaths since the 2001 U.S.-led invasion to oust the Taliban.

Villagers told Human Rights Watch they first came under attack from Taliban fighters who were demanding a share of their poppy income, but it was during the bombings that most of the civilians were killed.

The group reiterated its condemnation of Taliban practices of using civilians as human shields

and deploying its fighters in populated areas, but said its interviews did not suggest residents were used as human shields in Bala Baluk.

Villagers told researchers for the watchdog group the firefight between Taliban and Afghan and U.S. forces had ended before the evening bombing began. The U.S. has said militants were still firing in the villages when it dropped bombs on the site in the evening.

"Even if some Taliban remained in the village, dropping a dozen bombs into a residential area doesn't seem to make much sense," Brad Adams, the group's Asia director, said in a statement.

"The U.S. needs to answer some basic questions about the sources and quality of information it requires before authorizing these kinds of devastating bombing runs," Adams said.

U.S. military guidelines issued following a previous battle that resulted in large-scale civilian deaths charges commanders taking fire from an Afghan house to "satisfy themselves that every effort has been made to confirm that the Afghan facility does not shelter innocent civilians."

Human Rights Watch noted that international troops have also been told to consider pulling out of firefights in areas with large numbers of civilians.

On Thursday, a band of Taliban fighters attacked two police checkpoints in Helmand province's Nawzad district, taking control of the stations and forcing the officers to flee, said Dawood Ahmadi, a spokesman for the provincial governor.

The police launched a counterattack with the help of an airstrike, killing 22 insurgents. Three men who acted as Taliban chiefs in Nawzad and surrounding districts were among the dead, Ahmadi said. He said no Afghan forces died in the fighting.

Also Friday, a U.S. Predator drone crashed in the east for unspecified reasons. The drone was not shot down and the cause of the crash was being investigated, the U.S. said in a statement.

Wiring on Afghanistan bases to be inspected

The Pentagon has sent inspectors to Afghanistan to examine electrical wiring on U.S. bases, a step called for after several incidents of troops and civilians being electrocuted on U.S. bases in Iraq.

According to several media reports Thursday and Friday, the Defense Department's office of the inspector general sent the teams in April, though their findings are still being compiled and have not yet been scheduled for release.

Several servicemembers have been killed in Iraq by

electrocution, whether in faulty showers or other electrical incidents. Investigations there have shown that around a third of the U.S. bases in Iraq have "major" electrical problems, according to The Associated Press.

Those concerns have led officials to examine the bases in Afghanistan, which, in many cases, have been built or wired by the same contractors hired for Iraq work.

A Senate committee has also scheduled a Capitol Hill hearing for next week to examine the electrical work on the U.S. bases and the Pentagon's response, the AP said.

From staff reports

Obama to restart tribunals for detainees

BY LARA JAKES
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama on Friday restarted a Bush-era military trial system for a small number of Guantanamo detainees, reviving a method of prosecution he once assailed as flawed but with new legal protections for terrorist suspects.

In a three-paragraph White House statement, Obama announced the decision that already has drawn criticism from liberal groups, arguing that it will ensure a legitimate forum to prosecute alleged terrorists being held at the detention center at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

"This is the best way to protect our country, while upholding our deeply held values," the president said in a statement.

Obama had criticized the system established by President George W. Bush, and in his statement, he said it had only succeeded in prosecuting three suspected terrorist in more than seven years.

Answering liberal complaints, White House press secretary Robert Gibbs told reporters: "First and foremost, the president does what is in the best security interest of the United States."

For now, the military trials will remain

on hold, as they have been since the beginning of his administration, as Obama changes the legal system that is expected to try fewer than 20 of the 241 detainees now being held at Guantanamo.

The president said that immediate rule changes governing the trials will begin to bring them in line with the rule of law, most significantly by altering some rules of allowable evidence. Obama also is asking Congress to change the 2006 law creating the current, on-hold tribunal system to enact more sweeping reforms.

"Military commissions have a long tradition in the United States. They are appropriate for trying enemies who violate the laws of war, provided that they are properly structured and administered," Obama said.

Thirteen Guantanamo detainees — including five charged with helping orchestrate the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks — are already in the tribunal system.

Pentagon lawyers were filing a continu-



Obama

ance request with the military commissions judge seeking a 120-day delay in trials to give it time to enact at least the initial rule changes.

The tribunal system was established after the military began taking detainees from the battlefields of Afghanistan in late 2001.

But it immediately came under repeated challenges from human rights and legal organizations, because it denied defendants most of the rights they would be granted in a civilian courtroom or even in a traditional military court martial.

Obama voted for one version of the tribunal law that gave detainees additional rights, but then voted against the more limited 2006 legislation that ultimately became law.

Liberal groups, already stung by Obama's decision on Wednesday to try to block the court-ordered release of photos showing U.S. troops abusing prisoners in Iraq and Afghanistan, were angered again.

"It's disappointing that Obama is seeking to revive rather than end this failed experiment," said Jonathan Hafetz, a national security attorney at the American Civil Liberties Union.

"There's no detainee at Guantanamo

who cannot be tried and shouldn't be tried in the regular federal courts system. Even with the proposed modifications, this will not cure the commissions or provide them with legitimacy. This is perpetuating the Bush administration's misguided detention policy."

Also Friday, the United States released the prisoner who was at the center of a Supreme Court battle giving detainees the right to challenge their confinement, an Obama administration official said.

Lakhdar Boumediene left the U.S. naval facility in Cuba Friday headed to relatives in France, said the official, who spoke on a condition of anonymity because the release was not yet cleared for announcement.

Boumediene was arrested in 2001 in Bosnia, suspected in a bomb plot against the U.S. Embassy in Sarajevo. He arrived in Guantanamo in January 2002.

President Barack Obama has promised to close the prison at Guantanamo and has urged allies to help take prisoners from there.

In June 2008, the Supreme Court ruled in a case called Boumediene v. Bush that foreign Guantanamo Bay detainees have rights under the Constitution to challenge their detention in civilian courts.

Photo of Texas soldier in boxer shorts makes media splash nationwide

Stars and Stripes

Spc. Zachary Boyd was in his sleeping quarters this week when the Taliban attacked in the rugged mountains of eastern Afghanistan.

Boyd rushed to a defensive position clad in his helmet, vest and boxers — the pink ones with the "I Love N.Y." slogan.

By chance, an Associated Press photographer was working at Firebase Restrepo in the Korengal Valley of Afghanistan's Kunar province, where Boyd is stationed, according to a report in the Fort Worth Star-Telegram.

His boxers ended up in newspapers nationwide — including on the front page of The New York Times.

"It was typical," his mom told the Star-Telegram.

"He has always been an interesting little character."

Sheree Boyd, of Fort Worth, recalled her annoyance at how her "Zacho" used to "sag" his oversized jeans to reveal the tops of his boxers.

"I was always telling him to pull up his pants," she told the paper.

"I would give him a wedgie to make him do it. As a mom, you want your son to look nice."

Zachary Boyd called his parents Monday night to let them know that the photo might appear in the Times, according to the Star-Telegram.

"He said, 'I hear the Times is what they put on the president's desk,'" she said.

"Then he told us, 'I may not have a job anymore after the president has seen me out of uniform.'"



DAVID GUTTENFELDER/AP

Soldiers from the U.S. Army 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry take defensive positions on Monday at Firebase Restrepo in the Korengal Valley of Afghanistan's Kunar Province. Spc. Zachary Boyd, left, in his boxers, was rushed out of his sleeping quarters to join his fellow platoon members Spc. Cecil Montgomery, right, and Spc. Jordan Custer.

U.S. soldier killed north of Baghdad

BAGHDAD — The U.S. military says an American soldier has been killed in combat with enemy forces north of Baghdad. Four other U.S. soldiers were wounded during the operation in Duluiyah, nearly 50 miles north of the Iraqi capital.

The statement says the operation Wednesday targeted a "facilitator and a suicide vest cell" known to be operating in the area.

The names of the soldiers have not been released pending notification of next of kin.

From The Associated Press

BY AMANDA LEE MYERS
The Associated Press

PHOENIX — A 60-year-old Vietnam War veteran killed by a roadside bomb in Iraq has become the oldest Army soldier to die in that conflict, the military said Thursday.

Maj. Steven Hutchison, of Scottsdale, Ariz., served in Vietnam and wanted to re-enlist immediately after the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks, but his wife was against it, his brother said.

Richard Hutchison told The

Associated Press on Thursday that when she died, "a part of him died," so he signed up in July 2007 at age 59.

"He was very devoted to the service and to his country," Richard Hutchison said.

He described him as a great big brother and friend.

"I didn't want him to go," he said through tears, adding that he loved his brother "so much."

The Pentagon said Steven Hutchison was killed in Iraq on Sunday. Army spokesman Lt. Col. Nathan Banks said Thurs-

day that Hutchison was the oldest Army soldier killed in Iraq.

An Associated Press database of soldiers killed in Iraq and Afghanistan shows that Hutchison is the oldest member of any service branch killed since the wars broke out.

Hutchison served in Afghanistan for a year before deploying to Iraq in October, heading a 12-soldier team that trained the Iraqi military, his brother said. Later, he was assigned to help secure Iraq's southern border.

Hutchison, who grew up in

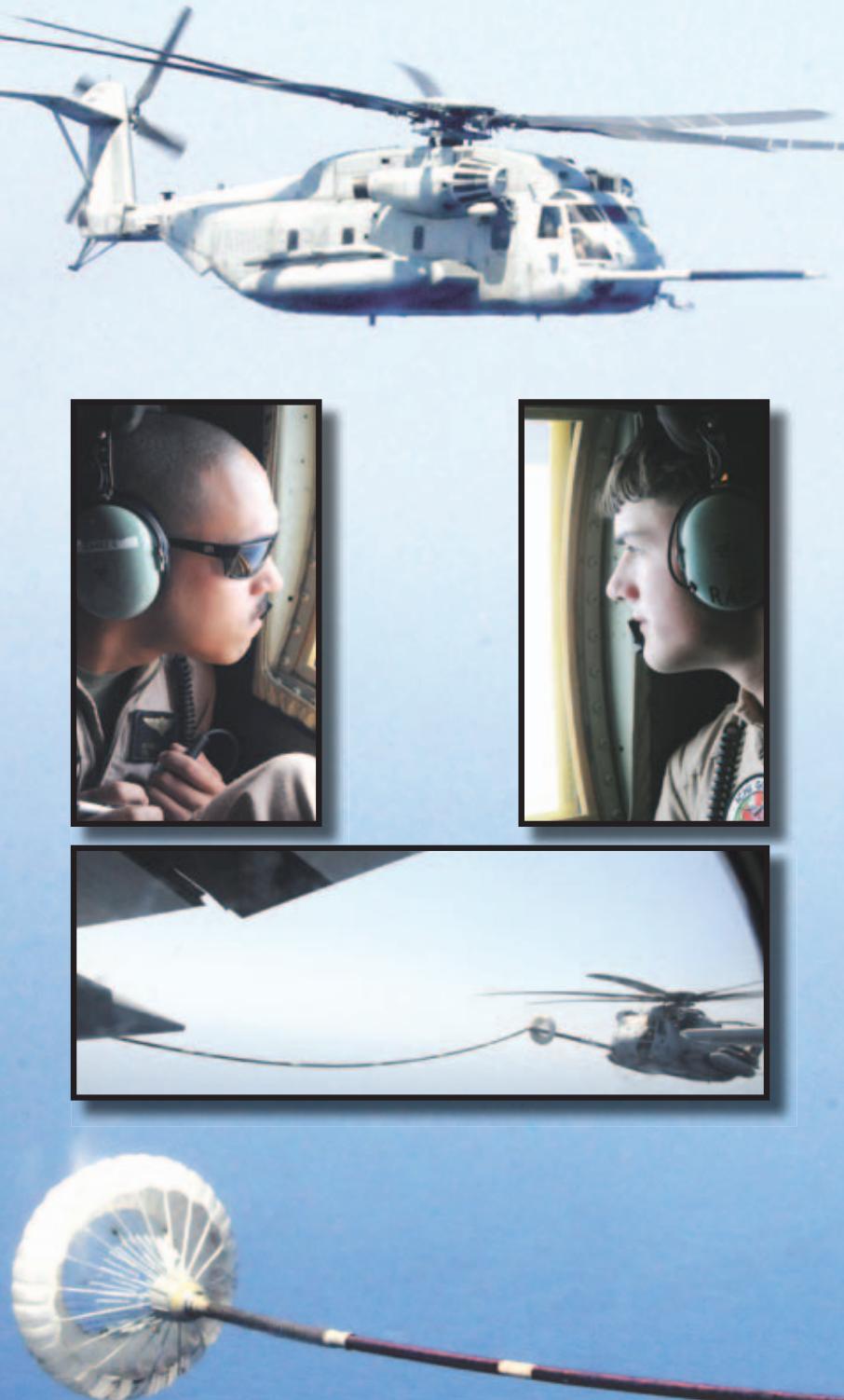
California, taught psychology at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles on and off between 1988 and 1996, and lectured and taught at two other colleges, according to school records.

He then worked at a health care corporation in Arizona before retiring and re-entering the service, his brother said.

He was part of the 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division at Fort Riley, Kan.

Vietnam vet, 60, is oldest to be killed in Iraq

Out of the clear blue sky, crews offer a refueling pit stop



PHOTOS BY CINDY FISHER/Stars and Stripes

A CH-53 Sea Stallion of Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 262, based on Marine Corps Air Station Futenma, Okinawa, refuels Friday at 1,700 feet, courtesy of a C-130 of Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron 152, also based at Futenma. The aerial refuel in the skies near Okinawa was a training mission for two CH-53 crews. Insets: Cpl. Esteban Juarez, left, and Lance Cpl. L.L. Rasmussen watch as the C-130 tanker they're aboard carries out aerial refueling operations.

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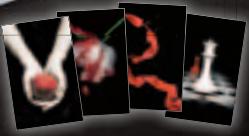
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IN THE STATES

Automakers continue to drop dealers

GM set to eliminate approximately 1,100 dealer franchises

By DAN STRUMPF AND TOM KRISHER
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — A day after Chrysler LLC moved to eliminate nearly 800 dealerships, General Motors Corp. on Friday told about 1,100 U.S. dealers their franchises will be terminated late next year.

The cuts are part of a larger GM plan to slash 2,600 of its 6,200 dealerships as the automaker tries to restructure to become profitable again. The moves likely will cause the loss of thousands of jobs across the nation. Governments will lose thousands of dollars in tax revenue as dealerships are forced to close.

Both Chrysler and GM say they are cutting dealers because they have too many outlets that are too close to each other, and the competition drives down prices. But as the ranks of dealers thin and competition decreases, that likely will mean higher prices for car and truck buyers.

"No longer will people be able to shop between three or four dealers within 15 minutes of each other for the best cutthroat price."

Aaron Bragman
IHS Global Insight automotive analyst

As GM and Chrysler lost market share to Japanese and other overseas brands, the automakers, as well as Ford Motor Co., ended up with too many dealerships. Many of the dealerships are barely getting by and can't afford to upgrade their facilities or hire the best personnel to compete with the Japanese, who have far fewer dealerships.

With fewer dealers, consumers won't see as much competition for their business and money, said Aaron Bragman, an automotive industry analyst with the consulting firm IHS Global Insight.

"No longer will people be able to shop between three or four dealers within 15 minutes of each other for the best cutthroat price," he said.

GM knows it will lose sales in the short-term, but over the long haul, fewer dealers will mean higher per-vehicle profits, Bragman said.

"As the dealers go, so goes the company in terms of financial health," he said.

Bragman said GM likely will go into bankruptcy protection on June 1, but it's starting to negotiate deals ahead of the filing to speed up the Chapter 11 process. "GM has been ... acting as if they are negotiating a prepackaged bankruptcy," he said.

GM, Chrysler woes felt nationwide

By TOM KRISHER
AND KIMBERLY S. JOHNSON
The Associated Press

DETROIT — In tiny Millerstown, Pa., the owner of the only car dealership in town found out Thursday he was on Chrysler's hit list — one of 789 across the nation that the automaker wants to eliminate.

"It's really, really a blow," Jeff Potter, whose family owns the dealership, said after hearing the news from a customer who spotted the closing list on the Internet. "When you talk about being here 34 years, it's my life."

Chrysler disclosed in a bankruptcy filing Thursday that it wants to close a quarter of its dealers in a matter of weeks, a strategy that might help save the company but would wipe out thousands of jobs. Dealers were notified by letter.

With General Motors Corp. announcing it will close about 1,100 dealerships, the crisis in the auto industry is reaching the front doors of Americans who live far from Detroit.

Millerstown Chrysler will try to survive by selling used cars. Otherwise, the town of 700 will lose one of its largest employers and a major source of tax revenue. And in other communities that depend on dealers for everything from newspaper advertising to Little League sponsorships, the ripple effect could be devastating. Dealerships in

every state but Alaska are on the list.

The National Automobile Dealers Association says about 40,000 people work at the affected dealerships. Many will keep their jobs, but their dealerships will be left to sell only the other brands in their showrooms, or used cars.

Chrysler said in its filing that sales are too low at many of the dealerships. Half its dealers account for 90 percent of its sales, and the company is trying to cut poor performers that compete for the same customers.

Bart Wolf, the general sales manager at Wolf's Motor Car Co. in Plymouth, Wis., estimated he donated an average of \$10,000 per year for local school events, supporting band trips and athletic activities.

"The way things are going now, that could be cut down to under \$2,000," he said. "It's hard to say no to anyone, but this could make things tough."

Local media will feel the pinch, too. The average new car dealer spent \$341,000 on advertising last year, said Paul Taylor, NADA's chief economist. The average dealer spends \$16.5 million per year in the community, including sales, payroll taxes and charitable contributions, he said.

Chrysler Vice Chairman Jim Press called the cuts difficult but necessary. He said the list of dealers is final.

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Republicans backing CIA in Pelosi dispute

BY DONNA CASSATA
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Congressional Republicans are rushing to defend the CIA after House Speaker Nancy Pelosi accused the spy agency of misleading her and other lawmakers about its use of waterboarding during the Bush administration.

The issue of what did the speaker know about the interrogation method — and when did she know it — has deepened the fault lines between the two political parties. Pelosi was unequivocal about a CIA briefing she received in the fall of 2002.

Pelosi vehemently disputed Republican charges that she was complicit in the use of waterboarding, and she suggested the GOP was trying to shift the focus of public attention away from the Bush administration's use of techniques that she and President Barack Obama have described as torture.

On Friday, the top Republican on the Senate Intelligence Committee contradicted Pelosi's claims and questioned her criticism of the nation's spy operations.

"I think it's a tragedy that we are seeing this massive attack on our intelligence community which has kept us safe," Sen. Kit Bond of Missouri said in an interview on NBC's "Today" show where he questioned why Pelosi was "going after the agency and calling them liars."

Bond said he reviewed the CIA's material and it was clear that Pelosi had been informed



Pelosi

about the harsh interrogation method, although Bond said he was not with Pelosi when the spy agency briefed her.

CIA spokesman George Little said it is not the policy of the agency to mislead Congress, although he refused to answer directly questions about Pelosi's accusation.

GOP officials secured the release of an unclassified chart by the CIA that describes a total of 40 briefings for lawmakers over a period of several years. Pelosi's name appears once, as having attended a session on Sept. 4, 2002, when she was the senior Democrat on the House Intelligence Committee. Former Rep. Porter Goss, R-Fla., who at the time was the chairman of the committee and later became CIA director, also was present.

The notation says the briefing was on "enhanced interrogation techniques on Abu Zubaydah ... and a description of the particular EITs that had been employed."

Little, responding to Pelosi for the CIA, said the chart "is true to the language in the agency's records." But he did not say whether the information was accurate.

Instead, he pointed to a recent letter from CIA Director Leon Panetta to lawmakers saying it would be up to Congress to determine whether notes made by agency personnel at the time they briefed lawmakers were accurate.

Coincidentally, Pelosi spoke as the CIA rejected former Vice President Dick Cheney's request to release secret memos judging whether waterboarding and other harsh techniques had succeeded in securing valuable intelligence information.

CIA spokesman Paul Gimigliano said the request was turned down because the documents are the subject of pending litigation, which makes them not subject to declassification.

Prosecutor questions Rove on fired U.S. attorneys

WASHINGTON — Former White House aide Karl Rove faced questions Friday from a special prosecutor weighing whether to bring criminal charges against Bush administration officials for the politically charged firing of U.S. attorneys.

Rove met with prosecutor Nora Dannehy at the office of his lawyer, Robert Luskin. Rove did not speak to reporters as he entered the downtown Washington law office and neither did investigators who arrived about a half hour later.

Rove has said he will cooperate with the investigation, which is being conducted to determine whether Bush administration officials or congressional Republicans should face criminal charges in the dismissal of nine U.S. attorneys in 2006.

Rove and other Republican officials refused to be interviewed in an earlier Justice Department inquiry, which concluded that despite Bush administration denials, political considerations played a part in the firings of as many as four prosecutors.

From The Associated Press



ELAINE THOMPSON/AP

Rose Inman packs living room items in the home she is about to lose in Seattle. Inman has been laid off twice and can no longer afford her \$3,100 monthly mortgage payments and hasn't had any luck getting her mortgage bill lowered. The Obama administration expanded its mortgage aid program on Thursday.

Government expands housing plan, but it's off to slow start

BY ALAN ZIBEL
The Associated Press

With less than 24 hours on the clock, Rose Inman's foreclosure was postponed Thursday for 60 days. But after spending hundreds of dollars she couldn't afford to find an apartment and pack her things, the last-minute gesture comes too late — she is moving out of her house overlooking Seattle's Puget Sound.

For the past two months she had hoped to benefit from President Barack Obama's plan to help homeowners avoid foreclosure. Despite numerous calls, e-mails and letters to Aurora Loan Services, she was only able to have one phone conversation with a company representative.

"It's like this huge, concrete thick wall that you cannot get through," said Inman, 58, who is working as a human resources consultant, but making much less than she was before she was laid off by the City of Seattle.

On Thursday, the Obama administration said its bold mortgage assistance program launched in March is helping thousands of borrowers, though some lenders are working faster than others. So far, participating mortgage companies have made more than 55,000 offers to modify borrowers' loans, but officials could not say how many of those homeowners had in fact been helped.

And knowing that many troubled homeowners can't be assisted, the Obama administration expanded its \$50 billion mortgage aid program, announcing new measures that would help homeowners avoid a foreclosure if they don't qualify for other assistance.

The initiatives are intended to streamline the process of selling a home that is worth less than the mortgage, or transfer ownership of a home to the lender. Both options will still ding the homeowner's credit score, but less than a foreclosure.

So far, 14 companies — including Aurora Loan Services, Wells Fargo and JPMorgan Chase — have signed up and will be paid for each loan they modify. And to further entice mortgage companies to participate, the government is offering payments totaling up to \$10 billion to compensate them for the risk of falling home prices.

"The basic problem is that the program is very complicated and involved to set up," said Guy Cicala, publisher of trade publication Inside Mortgage Finance.

He doesn't expect to see large volumes of loan modifications before July or August.

Government officials estimate up to 4 million borrowers will get their loans modified under the Obama plan, but housing experts like Mark Zandi of Moody's Economy.com expect the number will be less than half of that.

Notre Dame leader says Obama visit could boost debate

BY KEN KUSMER
The Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — The University of Notre Dame's invitation for President Barack Obama to speak at Sunday's commencement is an opportunity to broaden the debate on issues important to Roman Catholics, not a step at odds with church teaching, the school's president said in a letter to graduates.

"Ultimately, I hope that the conversations and the goodwill that come from this day will contribute to closer relations between Catholics and public officials who make decisions on matters of human life and human dignity," the Rev. John Jenkins said in the letter dated Monday and first reported Wednesday on a blog of the Jesuit monthly America.

Some 70 U.S. bishops and many other Catholics have condemned Notre Dame's decision to have Obama deliver the com-

mencement address and receive an honorary degree, saying Catholic teaching stands in stark opposition to the president's policies on abortion and embryonic stem cell research.

Others, however, have defended Notre Dame's decision in keeping with its recent tradition of inviting U.S. presidents to speak at commencement and engaging public leaders.

They include 24 theologians and other scholars who signed a

letter in support of the Obama invitation that was released Thursday. Jenkins wrote that Obama's visit "can help lead to broader engagement on issues of importance to the country and of deep significance to Catholics."

He said many of those who support the Obama invitation and those opposing it "agree completely on church teaching regarding the sanctity of human life" but differ on how to work for change in public policy.

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IN THE WORLD

N. Korea invalidates factory zone contracts

BY JAE-SOON CHANG
The Associated Press

SEOUL — North Korea declared all contracts on running a joint industrial complex with South Korea invalid Friday, the latest move to raise tensions on the Korean peninsula.

The announcement called into question the fate of a factory park once heralded as a promising example of collaboration between the two wartime foes. More than 100 South Korean companies employ some 38,000 North Koreans in the northern border town of Kaesong to make everything from electronics and watches to shoes and utensils.

With inter-Korean relations steadily souring, North Korea said it will draw up its own regulations on wages, rent and taxes for Kaesong. The declaration, carried by the country's official Korean Central News Agency, indicates it will become more expensive for southern companies to run factories in the complex.

South Korea must accept the new regulations unconditionally or leave Kaesong, the statement said.

"This is a measure that fundamentally threatens the stability of the Kaesong complex, and it is not acceptable at all," Unifi-



WU YOUNG-SIK, YONHAP/AF

South Korean vehicles coming back from the North Korean city of Kaesong pass at the Inter-Korean Transit Office in Paju near the truce village of Panmunjom in the Demilitarized Zone that separates the Koreas.

cation Ministry spokesman Kim Ho-nyeon said. "It is irresponsible for the North to say that [companies] should leave unless they unconditionally accept its unilateral measure."

North Korea claims the South is benefiting from "preferential treatment" at

Kaesong — including free rent and cheap labor.

The regime scrapped those benefits Friday, blaming Seoul's "confrontational" stance. "We cannot provide favors forever to those seeking confrontation," the statement said.

North Korean workers in the complex are paid about \$70 a month on average — about half the salary of Chinese laborers at South Korean factories in China, according to South Korean officials.

Raising wages and fees to match those in China would reduce the appeal of operating factories in North Korea, where border restrictions and arbitrary border closures have meant losses for South Korean companies struggling to weather the global financial crisis.

The industrial park opened in 2004 at a time of budding reconciliation between the Koreas.

In late March, North Korean authorities detained a South Korean citizen working in Kaesong for allegedly criticizing the regime's political system.

Last month, North Korea demanded higher wages and rent for companies working in Kaesong and refused to free the South Korean worker, after Seoul demanded the issue of the detained worker be resolved first, South Korean officials said.

Seoul's insistence on the issue is an attempt to "devastate" the complex, the North said Friday. "It entirely depends on the attitude of the South how uglier the situation will become," the statement said.



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RONALD ZAK/AP

American journalist Roxana Saberi, center, and her parents, Reza, left, and Akiko, pose for photos after they arrive at the airport in Schwechat, Austria, on Friday. Saberi was released from an Iranian jail Monday after an appeals court reduced her jail term to a two-year suspended sentence.

Journalist freed from Iran moved by her supporters

By VERONIKA OLEKSYN
The Associated Press

VIENNA — American journalist Roxana Saberi arrived in Austria on Friday to recuperate after four months in an Iranian prison, and paid tribute to those who had supported her.

Saberi, smiling and looking well, was accompanied by her parents. She said she planned to spend several days in the Austrian capital so she could begin to come to terms with her ordeal, and hoped to talk more about what happened.

"I need some more time to think about what happened to me over the past couple of days," the 32-year-old journalist said. "Nobody knows about it as well as I do and I will talk about it more in the future, I hope, but I am not prepared at this time."

Saberi, who grew up in Fargo, N.D., and moved to Iran six years

ago, has dual citizenship. She was arrested in late January and convicted of spying for the United States in a closed-door trial that her Iranian-born father said lasted only 15 minutes.

She was freed on Monday and reunited with her parents, who had come to Iran to seek her release, after an appeals court reduced her sentence to two years suspended.

Her lawyer, Saleh Nikbakht, has said she was convicted in part because she had a copy of a confidential Iranian report on the U.S. war in Iraq. He said she had copied the report "out of curiosity" while she worked as a freelance translator for a powerful body connected to Iran's ruling clerics. Prosecutors also cited a trip to Israel that Saberi made in 2006, he said Tuesday. Iran bars its citizens from visiting Israel, its top regional nemesis.

He said she told appeals court judges that she had copied the document two years ago but did not pass it on to the Americans as prosecutors claimed. He gave no details on what was in the document because it remains confidential.

The United States had said the charges against Saberi were baseless and repeatedly demanded her release.

Saberi, who at one point went on a hunger strike, told reporters at the airport in Vienna that she was grateful for the support she had received.

"I heard that certain people, many people, went through a lot of troubles because of me," she said.

"Both journalists and non-journalists around the world, I've been hearing, supported me very much and it was very moving for me to hear this."

4 U.S. citizens found strangled in Mexico

The Associated Press

TIJUANA, Mexico — The bodies of four U.S. citizens were found strangled, beaten and stabbed in a van in this border city, two days after they reportedly left their Southern California homes for a night at the Mexican clubs, U.S. officials said Thursday.

The victims, ages 19 to 23 years old, were found tied up on Saturday, but their deaths were not reported earlier because they were under investigation, said Fermin Gomez, an assistant state prosecutor in Baja California.

U.S. consular officials in Ti-

juana said the victims — two men and two women from the San Diego and Chula Vista areas — were U.S. citizens. The state attorney general's office in Baja California said one of the women was Mexican.

Their deaths are the latest in a string of violence in Tijuana that authorities blame on a bloody turf war between drug cartels.

Bernard Gonzales, a spokesman for the Chula Vista Police Department, said a friend told the women's parents they were headed to nightclubs in Tijuana on Thursday night. They were

reported missing the next day when they did not answer their cell phones.

Gomez said relatives of one of the victims told authorities they knew drug traffickers, and that one of the women had cocaine in her system.

The victims were Brianna Hernandez, 19; Carmen Jimena Ramos; Oscar Jorge Garcia, 23; and Luis Antonio Gamez III, 21, said Charles Smith, a spokesman for the U.S. Consulate in Tijuana. Ramos was believed to be 20 years old, but her age had not been confirmed.

Pope renews call for Palestinian state, peace, as Mideast trip ends

By MATTI FRIEDMAN
The Associated Press

JERUSALEM — Pope Benedict XVI ended his pilgrimage to the Holy Land on Friday with his strongest call yet for the creation of a Palestinian state and telling the faithful at the site of Jesus' crucifixion that peace is possible.

"Let it be universally recognized that the state of Israel has the right to exist, and to enjoy peace and security within internationally agreed borders," the pope said on the tarmac of Tel Aviv's airport before boarding the plane for Rome. "Let it be likewise acknowledged that the Palestinian people have a right to a sovereign independent homeland."

"Let the two-state solution become a reality, not remain a dream," Benedict said.

Earlier on the fifth and final day of his visit, the pontiff walked into the Church of the Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem, accompanied by a traditional escort of men in black robes and red fezzes rhythmically banging staffs on the ground to announce his approach.

Benedict knelt down and kissed the rectangular stone on which Jesus' body is believed to have been placed after the crucifixion. Then he entered the struc-

ture inside the church marking the site of Jesus' tomb and knelt inside alone for several minutes, hands clasped, as priests chanted nearby.

Afterward, he told those gathered in the church not to lose hope — a central theme during a visit in which he addressed the Holocaust, Israeli-Palestinian politics and the region's shrinking number of Christians.

"The Gospel reassures us that God can make all things new, that history need not be repeated, that memories can be healed, that the bitter fruits of recrimination and hostility can be overcome, and that a future of justice, peace, prosperity and cooperation can arise for every man and woman, for the whole human family, and in a special way for the people who dwell in this land so dear to the heart of the Savior," he said.

With those "words of encouragement," he said, "I conclude my pilgrimage to the holy places of our redemption and rebirth in Christ."

Thousands of soldiers and policemen were deployed Friday around Jerusalem's Old City for the pope's visit to the ancient church, which tradition holds marks the site of Jesus' crucifixion, burial and resurrection.



ARIEL SCHALIT/AP

Pope Benedict XVI waves from the steps of an El Al aircraft Friday as he prepares to leave following an official departure ceremony at Ben Gurion airport near Tel Aviv, Israel.

Britain's expense scandal widens

LONDON — Britain's expense scandal widened Friday with the suspension of a justice minister who claimed more than \$98,000 in housing costs over three years.

The Daily Telegraph reported that Justice Minister Shahid Malik put in the claims while he was given a discounted rent of \$150 a week by a local landlord. Malik said he had done nothing wrong.

"I have nothing to apologize for. I've done nothing wrong," Malik told the British Broadcasting Corp.

Downing Street said there would be an investigation into whether Malik broke a ministerial code of conduct by allegedly making a financial gain, given his discounted rent.

"Pending the outcome of that investigation, Shahid Malik will be stepping down as a minister. He is not being replaced," said a Downing Street spokesman on condition of anonymity, in line with government policy.

From The Associated Press

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STARS AND STRIPES

OFFER EXPIRES 5/29/09

Somali troops joining militias

By MOHAMED OLAD HASSAN
The Associated Press

MOGADISHU, Somalia

Fighting between the U.N.-backed government and Islamist militias sent frightened Somalis streaming out of the capital Friday, raising fears the government might fall after a week of fighting that already has killed more than 100 people.

Observers fear that if the al-Qaida-linked insurgents seize the capital they will gain a safe haven on the Horn of Africa. Somalia's long coastline borders an important sea trade route and the Horn juts into the Indian Ocean just below the oil-rich Arabian peninsula.

The government controls only



FARAH ABDI WARSAMEH/AP

Fierce fighting with Islamist militants in the Somali capital of Mogadishu has caused many families to flee the city in fear. One family is shown carrying their belongings as they leave the city on Tuesday.

one major road in the capital, along with some important government installations, with the assistance of just over 4,350 beleaguered African Union troops.

It is unclear how many troops the government commands. Its forces have been deserting to the insurgents for days, since the defection of two groups of soldiers helped elevate sporadic clashes into raging battles.

Neither the insurgents nor the government have released fig-

ures on the defections. But earlier this week, the local television station HornAfrik showed Islamist fighters displaying 17 military vehicles with government plates they said were brought over by a contingent of defecting soldiers.

The other group that defected was guarding a weapons cache at the city's main football stadium in the south of the city.

The two groups of soldiers who defected were the clansmen of hard-line opposition leader Sheik

Hassan Dahir Aweys. Somalia's powerful clans have filled the vacuum left during the country's 18 years without a central government, and the warlords who lead the clans have helped tear the country asunder.

On Thursday, government Information Minister Farhan Ali Mohamed announced that the commander in chief of military forces, Gen. Said Dheere, was being replaced by a police colonel, Yusuf Hussein Dhuumaal.

German navy: 'We don't have enough ships' to fight piracy

By JOHN HEILPRIN
The Associated Press

ABOARD THE FRIGATE SACHSEN F219 — On a rare stopover within view of New York City's skyline, some of Germany's top naval officers offered their views on Somalia's pirates Thursday, saying military might alone cannot win over the Horn of Africa nation's lawless coast.

"If we do not have a political change inside Somalia, if we do not have in the long run a stabilized political situation in Somalia, we still would have piracy in the area," said Rear Admiral Karl-Wilhelm Bollow, who commands Germany's flotilla with 4,200 personnel in the North Sea.

"We don't have enough ships. So we are dealing with the symptoms, rather than the origin right now."

Near the helm and comput-

ers that steer the 469-foot Frigate Sachsen, a state-of-the-art air defense vessel headed by Commander Markus Nolte, talk focused on Germany's role in anti-piracy Operation Atalanta in the Indian Ocean, the first naval mission mounted by the 27-nation European Union.

With pirate gangs increasingly coordinating their attacks against commercial shipping, the Germans have been on a nearly five-month training mission improving their own coordination with 10 nations off the coasts of Europe, Africa, South America and the United States.

German warships also help in other hot spots such as Lebanon's coast, as part of a 12,300-strong U.N. peacekeeping mission that, along with 15,000 Lebanese troops, is charged with keeping peace after the 2006 war between Israel and Hezbollah guerrillas.

17 suspected pirates in custody on U.S. ship

Seventeen suspected pirates remained aboard the USS Gettysburg on Friday, as U.S. Navy officials consider whether to turn them over for prosecution, a Navy official said.

The suspects were taken into custody Wednesday after they allegedly unsuccessfully tried to pirate the Egyptian-flagged Motor Vessel Amira. U.S. sailors and Coast Guardsmen boarded a vessel said to be a pirate "mother ship" after helicopter crews spotted a skiff leaving the Amira and approaching the larger dhow.

"This is moving a little slowly because we want to ensure that if a determination is made regarding prosecution, the proper evidence is in place," said a Navy official familiar with the process.

The Gettysburg remains near the "mother ship" in the Gulf of Aden to safeguard it, officials said.

A January agreement between the U.S. State Department and the Kenyan government lets U.S. military and coalition nations capture suspected pirates and turn them over to Kenya for prosecution.

From staff reports

The EU flotilla's warships have been escorting merchant ships and vessels chartered by the U.N.'s World Food Program to carry food to feed more than 1.5 million people in Somalia.

Africa's hot spots focus of U.N. trip

By EDITH M. LEDERER
The Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS — The U.N. Security Council is heading to Africa for a series of meetings and visits focusing on the continent's hot spots — the war in Darfur and its spillover into neighboring Chad, fighting in Somalia and efforts to bring peace to eastern Congo.

Ambassadors and diplomats from the 15 council nations were expected to begin the eight-day, four-nation trip in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on Friday evening. They will then head to Rwanda, Congo and Liberia.

While Darfur is a prime topic on the agenda of a meeting Saturday with the African Union in Addis Ababa, the Security Council is skipping Sudan this year.

Britain's U.N. Ambassador John Sawers said it wasn't "appropriate" to stop there after the International Criminal Court issued an arrest warrant for Sudan's President Omar al-Bashir in March on charges of war crimes and crimes against humanity in Darfur.

"We're not going to meet with someone who is an indicted war criminal," he said.

The council is going to discuss the political, humanitarian and security challenges in Darfur and the spillover of the conflict into neighboring Chad with the AU Peace and Security Council. It will also look at the performance of the 18,000-strong joint AU-U.N. peacekeeping force now in Darfur and prospects for getting the full 26,000 deployed.

The AU-U.N. meeting will also discuss efforts to end the fighting and promote political reconciliation in Somalia and combat piracy off its coast.

On Sunday, the council heads to Rwanda to promote the growing rapprochement between the governments of Rwandan President Paul Kagame and Congolese President Joseph Kabila. The council will visit the memorial to the victims of the 1994 genocide and a camp where former Rwandan Hutu rebels are now being rehabilitated.

Learn what's new in STARS AND STRIPES.

Science & Medicine

EACH MONDAY

A look at news that shapes our world, from beyond our planet to the frontiers of medical technology, energy development and the earth's changing climate.

FACES



AP

Paulina Porizkova, 44, says she's no longer a judge on 'America's Next Top Model.'

'Top Model' TV show dumps judge

Paulina Porizkova says she was fired from her post as a judge on "America's Next Top Model." The Czech-born model/actress broke the news Tuesday night on CBS' "The Late Late Show," telling host Craig Ferguson: "Do you know why I'm in Los Angeles, besides seeing you? ... Because I'm looking for a job. Because I was fired by 'America's Next Top Model' on my birthday."

Porizkova, who turned 44 on April 9, joined the judges' panel of the popular model-scouting series last year. Wednesday night's 12th season finale on the CW network marks her final appearance.

According to Porizkova, the firing happened over the phone.

"Just to be fair here, the reason I was told I was fired was because ... it seemed that 'America's Next Top Model' had gotten too fat and they needed to cut some fat — and the fat was me," she explained.

Porizkova judged the crop of 'Top Model' wannabes alongside fashion insiders J. Alexander, Nigel Barker and the show's creator and host, Tyra Banks.

Show representatives Jeff Tobler and Chelsea Hettrick declined to comment beyond confirming Porizkova's departure.

Pearl Jam bassist mugged

Pearl Jam bassist Jeff Ament was mugged outside an Atlanta studio where the band is recording, police said.

Three masked men dressed mostly in black came out of the woods behind Southern Tracks recording studio and attacked Ament and employee. The men got away with \$3,000 cash, along with computers and other equipment worth more than \$4,000. Paramedics treated Ament for head injuries.

Surveillance cameras recorded the incident, but no one has been arrested.

Sykes, wife have twins

Tart-tongued entertainer Wanda Sykes and wife Alex are the parents of twins.

Sykes' publicist, Danica Smith, says the babies, daughter Olivia Lou and son Lucas Claude, were born April 27.

Smith says Alex gave birth to the twins and "all are happy and healthy and at home." The twins are the first children for the couple, who married last October.

Harris to host Tonys

Neil Patrick Harris will host the 2009

Tony Awards, honoring the best of the Broadway season. The show will be broadcast on CBS on June 7 from Radio City Music Hall.

Harris has appeared in hit TV series such as "How I Met Your Mother" and "Doogie Howser, M.D." On Broadway, he has appeared in the revivals of "Cabaret" and in "Assassins," as well as in the Tony-winning drama "Proof."

"The discipline of live theater — doing the same perfect thing night after night, eight times a week — never ceases to amaze me," Harris said Thursday.

'Survivor' to halfway house

"Survivor" winner Richard Hatch has been moved to a halfway house from the federal prison where he was serving time for failing to pay taxes.

Hatch was convicted in Rhode Island in January 2006 of failing to pay taxes on the \$1 million prize he won on the debut season of the reality TV show. He was sentenced to four years and three months.

Officials say Hatch left the federal prison in West Virginia on Monday and is now being held in Pennsylvania. He's expected to be released Oct. 7.

— The Associated Press

No Twitter for Kanye

Kanye West doesn't like impostors. And he doesn't care much for Twitter, either.

In a blog posting, the outspoken rapper railed against the micro-blogging site for allowing users to set up accounts under fake names. West called on the site to take down the user tweeting under his name — and Twitter listened.

The user — named KanyeWest — was suspended Wednesday. The site doesn't allow impersonation, but does allow parody impersonations clearly meant as a joke.

Fake celebrity Twitter accounts have been a fact of life for the rapidly growing Twitter, but the site says it's working to combat the problem. Twitter co-founder Biz Stone said in an e-mail that Twitter is looking at how best to implement an account verification system.

Either way, West doesn't plan to join. He said he's "too busy actually being creative most of the time" and that "everything that Twitter offers I need less of."

— The Associated Press



Singer Kanye West is too busy blogging to find time for useless stuff like Twitter.

'05 BAD YEAR FOR EMINEM

Eminem, 36, says his struggle with drug and alcohol addiction had become so dire that at one point he considered checking out permanently. "I just wasn't taking care of myself," Eminem told BBC1 in an interview that aired last week. "At times I wanted to just give it up." Slim Shady says he canceled his European tour in 2005 and disappeared from the music scene to seek treatment at rehab. "I got sober, but it was pretty rough," said the rapper, aka

Marshall Bruce Mathers III. "A couple of years were bad for me."

Eminem also revealed he fancies Sarah Palin, whom he names in his new tune, "We Made You," which also pays homage to Amy Winehouse and Jessica Simpson.

— The Philadelphia Inquirer



Interscope/Aftermath/Shady Records

Rapper Eminem says that he has considered suicide.

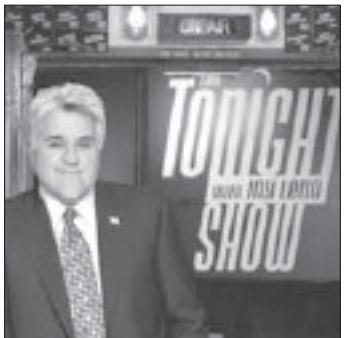
'MAXIM' WILD FOR WILDE

"House" star Olivia Wilde (Dr. Hadley), whose bod transforms a lab coat into the hottest thing next to a string bikini, has received Maxim magazine's greatest cultural honor: She has been named the hottest woman alive. "I'm considered sexy even though I'm wearing a lab coat every day and seen as a doctor on TV," says Wilde, who tops this year's Maxim Hot 100 list. "That really says something. Playing someone who is not defined by her looks and being considered hot, that really makes me feel good." Others in the top five are Megan Fox, Bar Refaeli, Malin Akerman and Mila Kunis.

— The Philadelphia Inquirer



Olivia Wilde, from the TV show "House," heads up Maxim magazine's Top 100.



Jay Leno's last "Tonight Show" guest will be Conan O'Brien, who is taking over as host of the show.

'Hair apparent' O'Brien will be Leno's last guest

Jay Leno's last guest on "The Tonight Show" will be the man taking over for him — Conan O'Brien.

Leno wraps up his 17-year-run as host of NBC's late-night show on May 29. The network says that O'Brien will be Leno's final guest. Then O'Brien steps in as "Tonight" host June 1.

The big names making the cut for Leno's final week of shows include Mel Gibson, Prince and Billy Crystal — who was Leno's first guest when he took "Tonight" over from Johnny Carson in 1992.

This fall, Leno will begin a daily prime-time show for NBC.

— The Associated Press



O'Brien

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Q How has the New England Patriots' Tom Brady been doing since his September knee injury? — F.D. Gillespie, Evansville, Ind.

A "Tom's rehab is coming along well," says a close associate of the quarterback. "He's got two years left on his contract and fully intends to return this season." Brady currently works out six hours a day, four days a week, with the Pats at their training facility near Boston. Come July, he'll have three weeks off — time enough for a second honeymoon with bride Gisele Bündchen — before preseason training begins in earnest. See more athlete-celebrity relationships at Parade.com/athlete

Q What's happened to the diamond rings from all of "The Bachelor's" broken engagements? — Franceen Ecret, Pennsville, N.J.

A Most of the rings — some of them valued at more than \$50,000 — have been returned to the show. But word has it that Shayne Lamas has held onto her pricey souvenir.

Q Will Garth Brooks ever perform again? — Hal Goode, Philadelphia

A Brooks still performs occasionally, but he and Trisha Yearwood live quietly in Owasso, Okla., where he enjoys cooking for his three daughters. The superstar says, "Someday I want my girls' friends to ask, 'Didn't your dad used to sing?'"

Q Will "Army Wives" Kim Delaney be back for another season? — M.T. Cifelli, Hamilton, N.J.

A "Season Three premieres June 7, and I'll be there for that plus a fourth season," Delaney tells us. "Life is good now. I recently asked my son, Jack, a happy freshman at Penn, if he was interested in acting. He told me: 'Only as a fallback position.'"

Q How many of the original "Addams Family" cast are still alive? — Bill Johnson, Las Vegas

A Four out of eight main characters. John Astin (Gomez), Ken Weatherwax (Pugsley), Lisa Loring (Wednesday), and Felix Silla (Cousin Itt) survive. Carolyn Jones (Morticia) died of cancer in 1983, and several others, including Jackie Coogan (Uncle Fester), succumbed to heart disease. Incidentally, a musical based on the Addams Family cartoons will open on Broadway next spring.



Country star Garth Brooks, shown Jan. 18 at an inaugural concert in Washington, D.C., still performs now and then, but would rather stay home and cook for his wife and daughters. wwwwww.



Kim Delaney says she'll return to "Army Wives" for at least two more seasons.

Q How do Paul McCartney and Heather Mills get along when it comes to the custody of their daughter, Beatrice? — Sherri Thomas, Amity, Ore.

A "There's still no love lost between them, but they've found a way of not letting their bitter feelings spill over to the joint custody of 5-year-old Beatrice," says a longtime friend of the ex-Beatle. "In fact, Heather has been thinking of buying a house near Paul's in the Hamptons so it will be easier for Beatrice to see her father."

Q Why don't the former girlfriends of stars like George Clooney sell their stories? — David Blaine, Elizabeth, N.J.

A "Some stars ask their partners to sign a kind of gag order," says celeb attorney Bert Fields, who won't name names and doesn't represent Clooney. "But it can put a damper on romance." See photos of Hollywood bachelors at Parade.com/bachelors

Q Are pop diva Pink and motocross star Carey Hart separated or together? — Mike Berkowitz, New York City

A "We love each other very much and want to work this out," Hart told us from his Las Vegas tattoo



Despite Pink's apparent fetish for John Deere vehicles, she and motocross star Carey Hart say they're working things out.

shop. He says their marriage suffered from too much time apart, so this summer they'll tour Australia together — he'll do motocross shows in the parking lots of her concert venues. Whatever works.

Q How is former Vice President Walter Mondale's daughter doing? — Bob Fiermuga, Schiller Park, Ill.

A Eleanor Mondale, 49, is still battling brain cancer and is receiving experimental drug treatment at the Mayo Clinic. According to Susie Jones, her radio co-host in Minneapolis, "Eleanor thinks of this as an inconvenience and is going to beat it."

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Want the facts? Opinions? Truth? Send your questions to Walter Scott at Box 5001, Grand Central Station, New York, N.Y. 10163-5001. Full name will be used unless otherwise requested. Volume of mail makes personal replies impossible.



George Clooney has ways of making sure that girlfriends don't kiss and tell.



Paul McCartney shows his little-boy side Feb. 8 at the Grammy Awards. Who could deprive a dad like this time with his daughter? Not even infamous ex Heather Mills.

Sunday Horoscope

The wise Pisces moon guides these final few days of this year's Taurus sun. You've likely got a project to wrap up, or at least a phase of a project. The work that's been so hard up until now seems suddenly effortless. You can execute activities automatically and may find yourself daydreaming as your body labors on without you.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (MAY 17). Your social savvy is off the charts this year and as a result, you get involved in life on a grand scale. You feel confident in a wide variety of situations and will often be invited places, chosen for friendship and love and appointed to committees. The adoration of a special young person lights up your world this summer. Cancer and Leo adore you.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). When it's time to show you care, you love to be dramatic and colorful. However, you aren't always happy to have that kind of attention lavished on you. You may be feeling rather shy and will prefer subdued appreciation.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You savor excitement and recognize when an experience is one of a kind. Many would thrill to do what you're doing, and yet they don't have the chance. You're grateful for your privileged position.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). The project that was on your back burner is now moved to the front and you suddenly realize there are not enough "burners"! Well, do what you can and soon other people will offer help and resources.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You play the gracious comedian, going for the laugh, but not willing to do it at anyone else's expense. You'll be lauded for your social genius — maybe not formally, but you can tell that people really like you.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). There are those who seem to want to help you, and yet they are so harsh in their approach that you feel hurt by them. Luckily, you can protect yourself. Stay

Holiday Mathis



away from these types and still keep the appearance of good manners.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You can stay on your path without detour, distraction or pause. You'll have to put your mind to it and take precaution against interruption, though. This degree of discipline makes you a winner.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Your innate sense of social balance makes it difficult for you to receive gracious hospitality without quickly returning it. However, it's better not to keep a mental tally now. Simply accept the gifts offered to you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Keep all of your agreements, even the minor ones. This is the single most important thing you can do now to raise your self-esteem, earn the respect of your peers and exert control over your world.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Financial issues may arise. Your loved ones need to know that you value them over any amount of money. Once you demonstrate your true values, you earn loyalty and trust.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The key to happiness is simple: Smile and you'll bring other smiling people into your world. And the mental garbage that's been holding you back will magically drop in the process.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You're mad at yourself for not getting something right the first time. But most so-called correct "first times" come after a good deal of practice. So there's no reason to get mad; just try again.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Most amateur photographers shoot when they are too far away from their subject, resulting in a picture that lacks intimacy. Today, be like a pro. Get in closer than you think you should. Create a dynamic memory.

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Difficulty: Hard

Fill in the boxes so that each row, column and 3-by-3 square includes the digits 1 through 9. For solution, tips and computer program, see www.sudoku.com

Yesterday's solution

8	5	4	2	3	6	9	7	1
6	3	9	7	5	1	2	8	4
7	2	1	8	9	4	6	3	5
9	8	7	4	6	3	5	1	2
5	4	2	1	7	9	8	6	3
3	1	6	5	8	2	4	9	7
1	7	8	6	2	5	3	4	9
4	9	5	3	1	8	7	2	6
2	6	3	9	4	7	1	5	8

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Spilling mom-to-be's 'virtual secret puts friend in hot water

I don't think I did anything wrong. Jill thinks I hurt her on purpose.

— Online Mommy in the Northwest

Dear Online Mommy: An online chat group is not a 12-step meeting where members guard their anonymity as girls do their chastity.

Unless a privacy warning was clearly posted on the site, there is no way you — or anyone else — could have known that the discussions were confidential.

One apology should be enough. Jill's feelings of persecution may be hormonal and connected to her pregnancy — so try not to take this too personally.

Dear Abby: My colleague, "Allison," is a nice person, but she's also a major hypochondriac. Every day she complains about her latest ailment — or a family member's — and the intensive treatment it requires.

Headaches, bathroom issues, rashes, aches, sinusitis, strange diseases, you name it.

Still, she rarely exhibits any obvious symptoms and almost never misses an entire day of work.

Many of our co-workers pam-

per her and give her the attention she obviously wants.

Because I tend to downplay her ailments I am considered insensitive and cruel. I am frustrated because I simply no longer care to listen to her made-up maladies. She also tries to convince everyone else in the office that their minor sniffles, fatigue and pulled muscles are symptoms of serious ailments.

Ironically, we are health-care workers, and talking about health issues is part of our job.

I'm sick and tired of Allison the Hypochondriac. Have you any ideas on how to handle this woman?

— Heard It All In N.Y.

Dear Heard It All: Allison does have an illness, but it is not of a physical nature.

Until the poor woman is ready to accept and deal with it — or your supervisor or human resources person is ready to urge her to — there is nothing you can do to "fix" her. Because her constant complaints are stressing you out, my advice is to move out of earshot as soon as she starts another chorus of her daily "organ recital."

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles CA 90069. Readers can write to Abby on the Internet at <http://www.uexpress.com/dearabby>

Universal Press Syndicate

Dear Abby



She's harried, with children

Women complain about how hard it is being a stay-at-home mom. After getting divorced, I discovered I could clean the entire house in a few hours — accomplishing way more than my wife ever did — and have all afternoon to do nothing. Men work long hours to support their families, only to be told they aren't doing enough around the house.

I think being a mom is important and value stay-at-home moms, but let's talk turkey about who really has the hard job, okay?

— Stay-Late-At-Work Dad

It used to be that a stay-at-home mom's work was never done — and for good reason. Chicken for dinner? Grab your coat, grab the ax, and chase your bird around the yard, taking care not to slip and end up face down in chicken poo again. Finally catch the thing, chop off its head, and see yet again that chickens can indeed run with their heads cut off — all the way to the next farm. Chase, catch, catch, drain, scald, pluck, and hoist the 50-pound cast-iron kettle over the fire. And then there's today. 1. Poke plastic wrap with fork. 2. Place in microwave. 3. Push button.

Since I describe myself as "BARREN!" I sought informed opinions about the difficulty of the mom portion of the stay-at-home's chore chart. "People

in general seem convinced that stay-at-home moms get a raw deal and work much harder than breadwinner dads," said Glenn Sacks, executive director of Fathers & Families. "Having been a stay-at-home dad with two kids during the years when they need the most intensive care, I can tell you that this is nonsense." And no, he didn't just jam a bottle in the baby's mouth and turn on the ballgame. "Even though I'm a guy," Sacks said, "I actually figured out how to get my daughter in the car and get her to her doctor appointment."

Stay-at-home moms, on the other hand, aren't saying "If only I had a nice cushy job like ditch-digging..." What those I spoke with find hardest is only having the company of a 3-year-old

all day, a companion whose intellectual interests are limited to answering questions like "How many fingers is this?" and "What does the cow say?"

And while the parent in the workplace can step out for a smoke, the stay-at-home can't even go to the bathroom by herself. Wouldn'tcha know it, in the 36 seconds it takes her to rush through her business, the baby will scale the counter, find a butcher knife, and see what happens when he sticks it into those holes where Mommy plugs the lamp.

As for those who don't have what it takes, childhood tragedies can be averted with helpful tools like the childproof cap — the one that comes in a little plastic packet labeled Durex or Trojan.

Women love their children, but an increasing number seem to hate being mothers like never before. It doesn't help that many are perfectionistic in a way men generally aren't, like with a house-cleaning regime right out of Joan Crawford's crazy scene in the bathroom in "Mommie Dearest." They'll beg their husband to pitch in, and when he does, screech that he's doing it "wrong."

Well, ladies, if you absolutely positively must have it your way, there's a single best person to accomplish that. Meanwhile, the housekeeping clash is only part of the problem. And modern conveniences aren't the solution; they might even be making things worse, freeing up mothers to fret over little Madison's every move — in between spending hours rubbing her down with antibacterial wipes.

Clearly, the essential question isn't whether it's moms or dads who really have the hard job, but why anyone would go into parenting without fully investigating whether they've got the partner and the financial and emotional wherewithal to raise another human being.

As for those who don't have what it takes, childhood tragedies can be averted with helpful tools like the childproof cap — the one that comes in a little plastic packet labeled Durex or Trojan.

Got a problem? Write Amy Alkon, 171 Pier Ave., #280, Santa Monica, CA 90405, or e-mail AdviceAmy@aol.com (www.advicegoddess.com)

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Motorist tells official moose fell out of sky

ME CLINTON — Police in Clinton say a 500-pound moose fell 18 feet to its death when it apparently leaped a guardrail on an Interstate 95 overpass and landed on Hinckley Road.

Officials learned of the incident when a motorist called the town office and told assistant town clerk Shirley Bailey that "a moose just fell out of the sky."

Bailey said the driver, who was under the bridge when he spotted the falling moose, was "pretty excited about it."

Murder charge filed in fatal beating

HI HONOLULU — An Oahu man has been charged with second-degree murder.

Police say Paul Kaeo is accused in the death of the boyfriend of his estranged wife, Debbie Kaeo. Charles Kahumoku Jr. was fatally beaten in Maili. Bail for the 44-year-old Paul Kaeo was set at \$1 million.

Debbie Kaeo's brother, Calvin Baker, told police Paul Kaeo had said he would kill Kahumoku if he saw him with his wife.

Police say Kaeo used a two-foot metal rod to beat Kahumoku when he came to pick up Debbie Kaeo.

The 49-year-old Kahumoku was pronounced dead at the hospital.

Kaeo's criminal record includes four sexual assault convictions and an abuse conviction.

Man uses junk mail CDs to create MAD cover

CA LOS ANGELES — It's always been a mad MAD world for Neil Cuadra.

The 55-year-old Internet entrepreneur has photographed a portrait he made of MAD magazine mascot Alfred E. Neuman's head using junk mail CDs and DVDs and sent it to the magazine, a feat that landed him in the magazine's 500th issue, published in April.

"You just blew our mind. You used junk mail from AOL to create a piece of art that became junk mail to us," the magazine's editors said in a footnote to his letter.

Cuadra said in a recent interview that he was inspired a dozen years ago by a MAD parody.

Man pleads guilty to New Year's shootings

CO DENVER — A man accused of firing a gun into the air and killing a woman and an 11-year-old girl as he celebrated the new year has pleaded guilty in a deal with prosecutors.

The Denver district attorney's office says 27-year-old Pedro Cortez pleaded guilty to two counts of manslaughter.

He faces probation to 24 years in prison at his sentencing set for July 10.

Prosecutors agreed to dismiss Cortez's remaining charges of first-degree murder, child abuse, possession of a weapon by a previous offender and illegal discharge of a weapon.

Authorities say Cortez fired



AMERICAN ROUNDUP

once into a home on Jan. 1, 2008, killing 47-year-old Rebecca Yanez and her niece, Angelica Martinez.

Workers' comp claims to be managed online

VA RICHMOND — Injured workers and insurance claim managers can now go online to view and manage their files with the Virginia Workers' Compensation Commission.

Agency chairwoman Virginia Diamond said the Web-based program will help speed up claims and benefit payments for injured workers.

She also says the program should make it simpler for employers to comply with agency rules.

The agency says employers will save money by discontinuing paper submissions of proof of coverage filings for each case.

Bill would ban texting or typing while driving

NH CONCORD — A New Hampshire Senate committee holds a hearing on making it illegal to send text messages on cell phones or type on laptop computers or other electronic devices while driving.

The bill — already passed by the House — would make an exception for entering a number or name in a cell phone to make a call. Violators would face a \$100 fine.

A similar measure passed the House last year but died in the Senate.



Bird-watch battle

Andy Dietrich takes part in the Great Texas Birding Classic in Port Aransas, Texas. Teams vie to see who can spot and record the most bird species in Texas.

This year's bill would ban text-messaging or otherwise using both hands to operate an electronic device while driving.

The state already has a law allowing police to ticket distracted drivers, so critics say the bill is unnecessary.

Appeals court looks at ship ballast rules

MN ST. PAUL — An environmental group challenging Minnesota's regulations on ship ballast water on Lake Superior will make its case before the Minnesota Court of Appeals.

The Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy is challenging the permit approved last fall by the state Pollution Control Agency because advocates think the rules are too lax.

Environmental advocates also say Minnesota's rules will take too long to implement, allowing for more invasive species to enter the lakes and spread to Lake Superior.

Strip club ordered to be shut down for 10 days

RI PROVIDENCE — Providence officials have ordered a 10-day shutdown of the strip club that was the site of a triple shooting nearly two months ago.

The Board of Licenses voted unanimously to suspend all eight of the Sportsman's Inn licenses for failing to control its premises the night a customer shot three people.

That includes its hotel license as well as permits that allow alcohol sales and exotic dancing.

The Providence Journal reported that the penalty was expected to go into effect on Friday.

6 firefighters injured in San Antonio blaze

TX SAN ANTONIO — Six San Antonio firefighters were briefly hospitalized after being exposed to chlorine while battling a blaze at a shed on the city's northwest side.

Assistant Fire Chief David Coatney said the firefighters experienced burning skin and some had trouble breathing after dealing with the blaze.

It was not immediately apparent who owns the shed, located on property near a cemetery and a country club, the San Antonio Express-News reported.

Human remains found at construction site

NY ANNISVILLE — Authorities are investigating the discovery of apparent human skeletal remains by a crew digging a hole for a backyard swimming pool at a central New York home.

State police say an excavator was being used to dig a hole in the Oneida County town of Annsville when workers discovered what appeared to be a human skull and other bones.

State police investigators and forensic identification technicians were called in.

The remains were taken to a Utica hospital for forensic work by the medical examiner's office before being transported to the state police lab in Albany.



Waging peace

Nancy Tranchese joins members of the End the War Coalition in an anti-war protest in front of Sun Devil Stadium, where President Barack Obama spoke at Arizona State University's graduation ceremony in Tempe, Ariz.



Beanie Bo

A display of Bo Beanie Baby dolls by Oak Brook, Ill.-based Ty Inc. are seen on sale at a bookstore in Chicago. Bo was inspired by the first family's new puppy, a Portuguese Water Dog.



Take a drink

Chris Rasmussen, of London, presses the button on a drinking fountain for his new cat Sparky at the Clare County Animal Shelter in Harrison, Mich. Rasmussen and his wife, Rose, came to Michigan after seeing a picture online of Sparky that resembled their old cat.



Bathing beauty

Firefighter Eforrest Allmond hoses down an Asian Elephant from Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey circus in Philadelphia.



Breaking out of her shell

model of an extinct glyptodont's shell at the new exhibit "Extreme Mammals" at the American Museum of Natural History in New York. A glyptodont is a South American mammal similar to an armadillo.

Francesca Perrelli, 8, of Italy, lies inside a



We have liftoff

Grunt, a King Vulture, takes off from a tree stump during a bird show at Tracy Aviary in Salt Lake City.



Sinking feeling

Carl Mills, of Red Jacket, W.Va., sits on his front porch behind his two automobiles. They were washed into a small creek flowing in front of his house when flash flooding hit his community.

3 people found dead in house in Texas town

TX LEAGUE CITY — Authorities found the bodies of three people in a house after a 911 caller reported shots had been fired.

The League City Police Department received a call saying someone had shot others inside the home.

The shooter went outside, then returned inside the home and fired again, the Houston Chronicle reported.

The identities and the relationship of three have not been confirmed, Sgt. John Jordan said in a statement. League City is located between Houston and Galveston.

Officer helps deliver baby on L.A. freeway

CA LOS ANGELES — A woman has given birth to a healthy baby girl — on a Los Angeles freeway.

The California Highway Patrol said that Officer DeShawn Cobbs and his partner were assisting at a highway maintenance closure on eastbound Interstate 10 when a car pulled into the blocked-off area requesting assistance.

The driver, the pregnant woman's sister, shouted to officers that her sister was having a baby.

The CHP said when Cobbs opened the rear door of the vehicle he saw that the woman was in labor. He said he saw the baby's head, asked the mom to give another push, and a baby girl was born. The CHP said the mother and baby were taken to a hospital where they are reported to be in good condition.

Cops: Amish youth had beer in buggy

NY LEON — Police cracking down on rowdy Amish youths ticketed a teenager for having beer in his horse-drawn buggy when they pulled him over on a western New York road.

They said 17-year-old Chris Slabaugh of Conewango was charged with underage possession of alcohol after he was stopped by Cattaraugus County deputies in the town of Leon, 40 miles south of Buffalo.

Detective Nathan Root said the teen admitted drinking beer, but passed a field sobriety test.

Root said another Amish man in the buggy, 22-year-old Emanuel Miller of Conewango Valley, was charged with providing the beer. Both are scheduled to be arraigned June 22.

Drowning victim was Honolulu man

HI HONOLULU — A drowning victim has been identified by the Honolulu medical examiner's office as David Root of Honolulu.

Officials say the 27-year-old Root got into trouble while swimming with friends near the China Walls surf break off Portlock Point in Hawaii Kai.

He became separated from his friends, and bystanders later noticed him floating in the water. They pulled Root to a ledge at the bottom of a cliff, and performed CPR until fire department personnel arrived.

The department's Air-1 heli-

copter airlifted Root to a waiting ambulance.

He was taken to a hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

Officials investigate ATV accidents; 2 hurt

ME LEBANON — Officials are investigating two ATV accidents that injured two young girls and a 55-year-old man.

Authorities say a 13-year-old girl from Rochester, N.H., was driving a four-wheeler on a road in Lebanon when it rolled over. Responders took her and her passenger — an 8-year-old girl from Somersworth, N.H. — to a New Hampshire hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

In the northern Maine town of Allagash, 55-year-old Rodney Thibodeau was hurt when his ATV rolled on top of him.

At the time, Thibodeau and his wife were riding ATVs on a remote camp road while attempting to document camps for the U.S. Census.

Project may spot weak rails before derailment

NE OMAHA — In the midst of the miles-long coal trains crossing the Plains, scientific researchers are measuring how much the rails bend as fully loaded Union Pacific and Burlington Northern Santa Fe cars pass.

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln research is designed to identify soft spots in the rails that might help railroads find and fix problems before they cause derailments.

The prototype testing rig is attached to a coal car filled with sand to mimic the weight of a fully loaded coal car.

State to set new goals for Chesapeake cleanup

MD ANNAPOLIS — Gov. Martin O'Malley says Maryland will try to reduce nitrogen pollution from agricultural runoff in the Chesapeake Bay by boosting the use of cover crops. Cover crops such as barley, canola and kale absorb nitrogen from the soil. The state also plans to create more forested stream buffers.

Investors hope to rebuild historic hotel

WV HARPERS FERRY — Owners of the Hilltop House in Harpers Ferry plan to demolish the 121-year-old hotel and build a replica for \$75 million.

But there's a catch. SWaN Investors of Leesburg, Va., doesn't have the money and it needs some property rezoned.

Investor Fred Schaufeld said the economy is making it difficult to secure funding. He said that will delay plans to reopen the hotel until at least 2014.

Plans unveiled include a 179-room hotel with luxury guest rooms and suites, a spa, conference center, restaurants and outdoor event space.

Company spokesman Mike Miller said the project could generate jobs for 220 people and more than \$7 million for the local economy.

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News Item 1

New subscriber's cost for an 8GB model

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By MEGHAN DAUM
Los Angeles Times

On May 5, subscribers to Planned Parenthood's mailing list received an e-mail from author Judy Blume. Cleverly headed "Are You There (Your Name Here)? It's me, Judy" (a reference to Blume's classic young-adult novel "Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret"), the message made a pitch for Mother's Day donations. "It's not easy to be a mother these days," Blume wrote. "And right now — with more and more women seeking care from Planned Parenthood health centers — we need to do all we can to support them. By honoring a mother in your life, you'll be making a gift to millions of mothers and families who seek care from Planned Parenthood."

The next day, an e-mail titled "Judy Blume backlash — please help!" arrived from Planned Parenthood's president, Cecile Richards, who wrote: "Anti-choice extremists are inundating (Blume) with hate mail and phone calls."

That e-mail included links to donation forms on Planned Parenthood's Web site as well as a hastily created "Stand up for Judy Blume" page, where supporters could send encouraging words to the author — even though Blume is famous for her frank treatment of subjects related to puberty and sexuality and is presumably no stranger to hate mail.

Much of the push-back appears to have been generated by an article in the pro-life publication LifeNews, which put some heavy, misrepresentative spin on Blume's words. "Blume notes how more women are seeking abortions from Planned Parenthood because of the difficult economy," wrote LifeNews Editor Steven Errett, "and she urges readers of the e-mail to use that as a reason to support the abortion business." Errett provided an e-mail address for Blume as well as a link to her Web site and urged readers to write and voice their complaints...

In the blogosphere and elsewhere, pro-choicers fired back, imparting the statistic about abortion making up only 3 percent of Planned Parenthood's services and pointing

out that many of the women being yelled at by picketers in clinic parking lots aren't even pregnant but, rather, trying to avoid getting pregnant. "Are you there LifeNews? It's me, Reality," wrote a commenter on the popular women's media blog Jezebel.

Like Blume, Planned Parenthood occupies a clear position on the post-Roe cultural map. Generally speaking, if you're on board with abortion rights, you're on board with Planned Parenthood. If you're pro-life, the organization is the headquarters of Godlessness. And while there are surely Blume fans who don't favor legalized abortion, it's easy to see why Planned Parenthood enlisted her as a fundraiser. An icon of 1970s-era feminism and its efforts on behalf of sex education and women's health, she elicits certain nostalgia for the early days of the fight that makes pro-choicers want to keep fighting today.

But in seeing this saga unfold in my inbox, I was struck by a troubling question. Even though Blume may not be associated with abortion in and of itself (none of her protagonists ever got one), is there something about her persona that makes her vulnerable to appearing dispassionate about its ramifications? Is she reminding people of a time when, in the relief of Roe being decided, there was a cultural perception that abortion was a simple procedure that needn't come with attendant emotional baggage?

That's not to suggest that, back in the day, a lot of women put abortion in the category of getting a tooth filled, nor is it true that all women today agonize over the decision. But there's no denying that the language and overall tone has changed. Despite what many pro-life groups seem to think, most abortion-rights advocates prefer "safe, legal and rare" to "no big deal."

President Barack Obama, pro-choice though he is, is hardly strident — and even a little evasive — on the issue, favoring language about reducing the number of abortions and finding common ground with the other side. The pop-cultural arena, for its part, has become downright allergic to the issue. In 1972, the sitcom heroine Maude had an abortion (on prime-time TV), and a

story line in the 1982 movie "Fast Times at Ridgemont High" included it with relatively little fanfare, but 2007's "Knocked Up" is so squeamish that the characters can't even get the word out, hence the coinage of "shmhsmortion." (Don't be surprised if, as he readies his Supreme Court nomination, the president himself adopts this term.)

That doesn't make Judy Blume a bad choice for Planned Parenthood. She — or more correctly, the ruckus — was undoubtedly more effective at raising money than the pitch from Gwyneth Paltrow and Blythe Danner, who sent a similar e-mail on the organization's behalf days later. But for all of Blume's radical (if nostalgic) cachet, what might be even more radical is if the pro-choice community could find a way of talking about reproductive freedom that neither reverts to the perceived casualness of the 1970s nor panders to the "shmhsmortion" dialect of today. "Safe, legal and rare" comes close. But "safe, legal, rare and a big deal" might be even better.

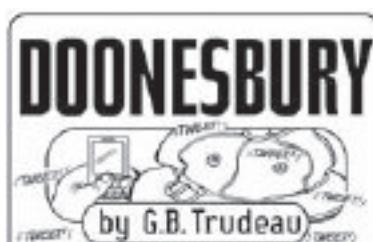
Meghan Daum is an essayist and novelist in Los Angeles. Her column runs weekly in the Los Angeles Times.

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OPINION

What newspapers are saying at home

The following editorial excerpts are selected from a cross section of newspapers throughout the United States. The editorials are provided by The Associated Press and other stateside syndicates.

Economic optimism hits spot

The (Crystal Lake, Ill.) Northwest Herald

Did we hear that correctly?

Did Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke actually say something positive recently about the economy?

Something about it starting to grow again in 2009, after 18 months of a deep recession?

Something about stronger home sales, increased consumer spending and improved lending conditions?

No reason to clean out our ears. Bernanke did say that May 5 during a meeting of Congress' Joint Economic Committee.

He tempered his optimism by saying that the recovery initially would be weak, and that more jobs would be lost even as the recovery begins. But after a year-and-a-half of doomsday-like headlines about crumbling financial institutions, free-falling home values, eroding retirement savings and skyrocketing unemployment, we'll take just about any positive news on the economic front. ...

Tough times still are ahead. Many folks likely won't regain what they've lost during this recession whether in home value, retirement savings, income — for a while. But the economic news, finally, is encouraging. And we'll take that, no matter how tempered it is.

Respect ceremony regardless

South Bend (Ind.) Tribune

Talking to one another, seeking common ground, never will resolve the differences between those who believe women should have the right to choose an abortion and those who believe abortion is murder. The gulf is just too wide and the feelings are too strong.

We do think, however, that those who disagree with President Barack Obama on abortion, and those who agree with him, can find common ground regarding his upcoming visit to the University of Notre Dame.

Obama was offered the honor of delivering Sunday's commencement address. He did Notre Dame the honor of accepting. For both these facts, we are pleased — and especially so for the graduating class. Its members will be sent forth in life with the eloquent words of the leader of the free world. It will be a wonderful and memorable event for them. ...

All the same, strong feelings on this issue were to be expected. What wasn't expected — and what is a very great shame — is the conduct of people who have traveled to South Bend from other places with no purpose other than to make trouble and grab headlines. ...

No one can stop anti-abortion activist Randall Terry from vowing to turn the Notre Dame campus into a "political mud pit" and the commencement ceremony into a "circus." But we can, as a community, show our shared disdain for his words. This is a community where not everyone agrees. But it also is a community where people can disagree without threats or expressions of hatred. ...

Work with China on N. Korea

The (Warren, Ohio) Tribune-Chronicle

North Korea probably will test another nuclear weapon soon, President Barack Obama's coordinator for policy on weapons of mass destruction recently predicted.

The time for talk is over, and Congress



ed. There is no reason to doubt Obama aide Gary Samore's assessment, particularly in view of the world community's failure to do anything meaningful to punish North Korea for its recent test firing of a medium-range missile.

At first glance, Samore's policy prescription for the United States does not sound appealing. "We'll just wait," he said in answer to a question about how Obama would respond to a new nuclear weapons test.

But Samore may have a good point. He explained that he believes a nuclear weapons test would convince other nations to support new sanctions against North Korea. He added that Chinese leaders are "very, very angry at the North Koreans."

We hope so. Because unless something is done to stop North Korea's steady march toward nuclear missile capability, that country soon will pose a threat to peace — and perhaps to millions of lives.

Obama and his diplomats, in choosing the "just wait" strategy, need to work intensively behind the scenes to mobilize international anger at the threat from North Korean aggressiveness. Enlisting China in a serious campaign to stop Pyongyang's technological mobilization may well be the most promising avenue of action.

Beijing needs to be convinced that it is not in China's interests to allow North Korea to proceed with its weapons buildup.

Going nuclear over energy bill

The Dallas Morning News

It's been a long time coming, but Congress finally is taking a serious stab at shaping an energy policy for America. Democratic Reps. Henry Waxman of California and Edward Markey of Massachusetts deserve credit for forcing Congress to confront our national addiction to dirty fossil fuels.

Make no mistake, though: The American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009 isn't the comprehensive energy strategy this editorial board advocates and this nation urgently requires. The bill is long on environmental policy mandates but short on energy. ...

No energy or environmental bill can be complete without a serious and comprehensive strategy to develop nuclear energy, essentially a carbon-free but reliable power source. ...

This bill must streamline the permitting process for nuclear plants, address safety concerns and provide incentives for companies to invest in nuclear power. ...

It's unlikely that this complicated bill will be ready for the full House to consider by Memorial Day, as Waxman and Markey had hoped, but however long it takes, Congress needs to press forward with a plan to wean the nation from dirty energy.

The time for talk is over, and Congress

owes it to our future to pass a better-balanced energy bill this year.

Health-care reform certainty

San Jose (Calif.) Mercury News

The latest indication that America is ready for health-care reform is also the strongest: The insurance industry, hospitals, pharmaceutical companies, doctors and a union representing about 1 million workers delivered a pledge to President Barack Obama on Monday to reduce health-care costs by 1.5 percent a year over the next decade.

This could save the government \$2 trillion, which could be put toward the goal of health insurance for all. But the savings estimate is less significant than the sea change this indicates in the movement toward health reform. No longer are the major players in the health care industry trying to block it. They're just trying to make sure they're partners rather than casualties in the plan.

Ironically, the recession may be helping the cause. Fewer and fewer companies are comfortable shouldering the bulk of health insurance costs for workers. And as more workers face unemployment, the ranks of uninsured in the middle class, let alone the poor, are growing.

With Monday's historic announcement, the debate now shifts from whether national health care reform is possible to when and how it can be accomplished.

Proactive steps for next flu

Los Angeles Times

It looks like health authorities and the public can breathe a sigh of cautious relief (covering their mouths, we hope) as new information indicates that although the flu formerly known as swine spreads easily, its severity appears on par with that of most other flu viruses.

That's not to trivialize the H1N1 strain or any other; influenza kills an average of 36,000 Americans a year. That's all the more reason why the diminished alarm doesn't present government officials with an opportunity to relax. Instead, they should build on lessons learned and work on bridging gaps in the nation's public health network. ...

Where the nation's response most needs improvement is with long-term public policy. Legislation and public education campaigns should foster healthy individual actions — having people stay home when they first start feeling sick, for instance, or getting them to wash their hands frequently. ...

The greatest danger would be complacency about the toll taken by flu. Epidemiologists warn that even if this outbreak proves milder than expected, the virus could return in a more dangerous form

in the fall. Hopefully, by that time a vaccine will be available. Health authorities, meanwhile, should use the current sense of urgency to call for common-sense policies that will keep us all safer.

Baseball fans sick of steroids

The Watertown (N.Y.) Daily Times

Major League Baseball's 50-game suspension of Manny Ramirez for a drug violation shows that the Steroid Era is very much alive.

One would think that after all the discussions, hearings and disappointments surrounding the use of performance-enhancing drugs, players would get the message.

The fans are sick of it. Much suspicion clouds the game. Some of baseball's most prominent players and retired stars are implicated. ...

Ramirez has helped spark the Los Angeles Dodgers to one of its best starts in recent years. He claims a doctor prescribed the female fertility drug HCG for undisclosed health reasons. At the same time, the player took responsibility and acknowledged his mistake.

The steroid problem lingers, raising questions of whether the league is doing enough. If a high-profile star like Ramirez is using illegal drugs, what about the player who has yet to make the majors?

Steroid use remains a vexing problem for baseball. It continues to undermine the game and set a terrible example for young players. Some have argued that the Ramirez case shows that a testing system is in place and being enforced. We'll see.

Charities have no down time

Pensacola (Fla.) News Journal

One of the great ironies of charitable work is that when times are hard and people need help, charities and other nonprofits see donations drop.

It's understandable. Even for people who have not lost a job or faced a home foreclosure, the shaky economy casts a pall over all money matters, and financial uncertainty forces people to hold on to what they may have. ...

Needy people who struggle to provide for themselves depend on help agencies and charitable groups to make ends meet.

Even during this economic downturn, America remains a rich nation, and this community has shown in the past that it is willing and able to take care of our problems at home. Those who can are urged to once again prove they will help to ensure the needs of the needy are met.

All of those who have the ability and the resources to assist local charities in doing their work should do so. ... Every little bit helps those who give help and those who receive it.

PERSPECTIVES

Inquiring minds want to know . . .

how best to keep tabs on public figures

BY TOM SCOCCA

Without the National Enquirer, Elizabeth Edwards never would have sat down with Oprah Winfrey to discuss her husband's infidelity and her new book about it. "It's not going to change my life in any way," Edwards said of the reports — "tabloid" reports, as Winfrey called them — suggesting that former vice presidential candidate John Edwards may have fathered a child out of wedlock.

As advance tidbits from the Oprah interview made their way through the media, the Enquirer was declaring from grocery store racks that Winfrey herself had "ONLY 3 YEARS TO LIVE!" Just below the screaming yellow "-VE" of the headline, slender little white letters murmured the caveat, "Experts Predict", inside, the paper explained that the imminent date was "based on (Winfrey's) history of yo-yo dieting" and her claims of thyroid problems, cross-calculated using estimates from two doctors who had never examined the star.

The reputable media don't traffic in that sort of tenuous speculation about people's lives. They also didn't traffic in the story of John Edwards and Rielle Hunter, until the Enquirer forced them to. This is why "tabloid journalism" is used as a put-down, and why tabloid journalism still exists: No one else does what it does, but in some situations, you need it.

When a person's image is a commodity — as was the case with John Edwards, the millionaire of humble origins whose family life supposedly kept him grounded — the ideas of privacy and good taste become part of the marketing effort. The tabloids, rude and prying, are able to break through such images to the truth behind them in ways the conventional media cannot.

Before it was an insult, "tabloid" was (and remains) a format: the cheaper, more portable challenger to the ponderous broadsheets of record. Now that challenge comes instead from the limitlessly cheap and portable Internet, and the once-big papers have trimmed their print editions to something not far from the disreputable tabloid size. The Senate commerce committee this month held hearings into the "future of journalism" — will there be any room for the civic-minded, money-losing newspapers in the opinion-heavy, aggregation-minded, free-for-all of new media? If the "legacy media," as traditional newspapers were called at that hear-

ing, want to last longer than the Enquirer thinks Oprah will, perhaps they have something to learn from the tabloids do business.

In the main lobby of The Washington Post hangs a list of journalistic principles expounded by the paper's late publisher Eugene Meyer. "As a disseminator of the news," states one of those principles, "the paper shall observe the decencies that are obligatory upon a private gentleman." It's hard to fault standards and practices that were vigorous enough to handle the Watergate story, but the rule doesn't offer much guidance about dealing with news about cads and their indecencies — particularly when the indecencies are neither entirely private nor entirely public. Add in Meyer's admonition to tell the truth "as nearly as the truth can be ascertained," and the outlines of a loophole become even clearer: One way to stay out of the papers is to be especially squalid, and to lie about it.

"False, absolute nonsense," an Edwards spokesperson told the Enquirer at the beginning of the Edwards-affair affair in October 2007, while the candidate was still working the heartland on his way to a second-place finish, ahead of Hillary Rodham Clinton, in the Iowa caucuses. Against that blanket denial, the paper cited "a source close to the woman" and "one bombshell e-mail message" to support what it called a "shocking allegation — if proven true."

Respectable news outlets prefer something a bit firmer than "if proven true." But as with the Oprah story, the Enquirer was showing its work — if you didn't like the epistemology, you didn't have to believe anything just yet. Nine months later, when Enquirer reporters were chasing John Edwards up and down a Los Angeles hotel stairway in the middle of the night, the paper's anonymous sources started to seem a little more persuasive.

Non-tabloid journalists are supposed to avoid anonymous sources except in extenuating circumstances. Paying sources for information, another tabloid staple, is always unacceptable. The first rule is broken all the time; the second can be worked around, especially by TV producers looking for exclusives. But there's widespread agreement that the rules are correct in principle.

That doesn't mean that the tabloid approach is inherently unreliable. The Enquirer has argued that paid sources may even be more trustworthy than unpaid ones, because their reason for speaking

to the media is open and straightforward. It was a paid source who supplied the Enquirer with a photograph of O.J. Simpson wearing his Bruno Magli shoes, the ones he'd insisted, during his murder trial, that he'd never owned.

Even journalists who resist (not unreasonably) the pay-for-play theory might admit that the distinction between anonymous sources and named ones is not as simple as respectable papers' standards make it out to be. The idea that on-the-record quotes are an indicator of truth is a charming

fiction — and a hilarious one for those of us who have ever had to cover the journalism industry itself.

Take, for example, the decline of George Steinbrenner. The supposedly ferocious New York newspapers spent

These semi-concessions work, when they work, because respectable news organizations are uncomfortable playing the role of prosecutor, or even of judge. Objective, professionalized journalism aspires to the neutrality of an empty courtroom, a space where other people can come and do all the talking. Try not to assert a fact, let alone draw a conclusion, if you can get someone else to do it for you.

The Enquirer draws its own conclusions, and isn't shy about putting them on every page. It adheres to the notion, variously attributed to Lord Northcliffe of London's Daily Mail or Reuven Frank of NBC, that the news is what someone wants suppressed. Its twin imperatives are to grab as many readers as it can and to be ready to defend itself in court. This means that the Enquirer has to be ruthlessly clear about what it is saying and why it is saying it.

Compare the Edwards coverage to the muddle The New York Times made last year of its story about John McCain and lobby-

ist Vicki Iseman: Rather than alleging a sexual scandal, the Times wrote that McCain's advisers had been concerned about "the appearance of a close bond" between the two — treating the existence of innuendo as if it were an objective fact.

The Times' loudest critics took the story as a clumsily veiled partisan attack on McCain. A top McCain adviser, Steve Schmidt, even used the tabloid epithet to describe the story, calling it "something that you would see in the National Enquirer, not in The New York Times."

Iseman sued the paper, producing a settlement and an editor's note that was even more confusing than the original story. But if anything, the story was distinguished by its desire to be nonpartisan — so nonpartisan that it forgot to make whatever point it originally meant to make.

As investigative journalism, it was not noticeably more incompetent than the Times report last fall that Joe Biden lived in a nice house, "appears to have benefited" from being a United States senator (though he hadn't "bent any rules") and seemed to have used campaign funds for a "mulching job" when he was hosting what may or may not have been a campaign event on the grounds of his home. "I don't know if it was political," his landscaper said.

If that's a leading newspaper's notion of meaningful reporting, give me more anonymous best friends and hotel stakeouts. Or better yet, give me both methods, high and low. In between the sensational sleaze and the proper-minded gibberish, it might be possible, sometimes, to spy the truth.

Tom Scocca, a former media reporter, is at work on the book "Beijing Welcomes You." This column first appeared in The Washington Post.



GEORGE BURNS, HARPO PRODUCTIONS INC./AP

Tabloids gave the public a distinct look into what was going on in the Edwards family. Those revelations led to mainstream media coverage and, in March, this visit to the home of former presidential candidate John, his wife, Elizabeth, and their daughter Emma Claire from Oprah Winfrey.

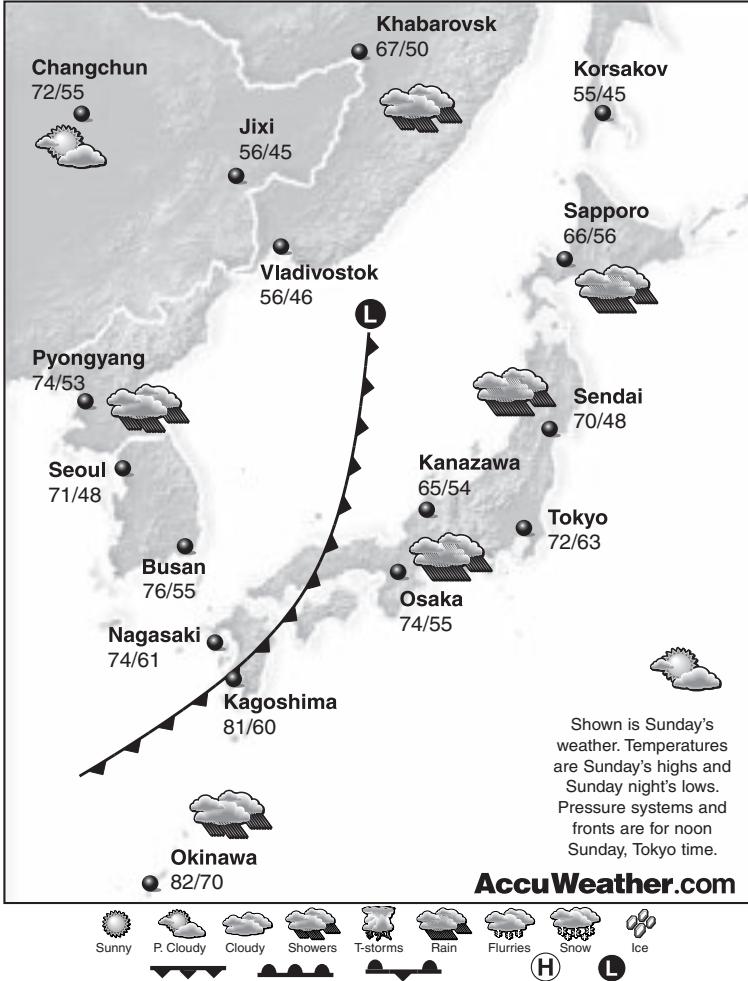
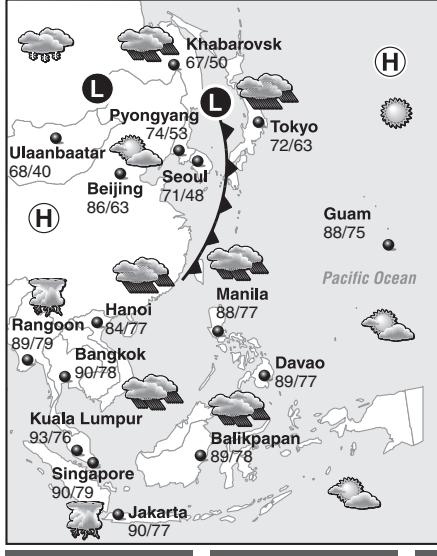


CHRISTOPHER SIX/Stars and Stripes

TIDE TABLES

Location	Sunday			
	High	Low	High	Low
Japan				
Yokosuka	8:56 a.m.	4:12 a.m.	11:39 p.m.	4:12 p.m.
Sasebo	1:59 a.m.	8:02 a.m.	12:26 p.m.	7:59 p.m.
Naha	12:57 a.m.	6:37 a.m.	12:01 p.m.	6:54 p.m.
Hachinohe	6:58 a.m.	2:08 a.m.	10:10 p.m.	2:32 p.m.
Korea				
Cheju Island/Sogwip'o	3:40 a.m.	10:58 a.m.	4:33 p.m.	10:19 p.m.
Kunsan	8:39 a.m.	2:46 a.m.	9:16 p.m.	3:41 p.m.
Guam				
Apra Harbor	2:06 a.m.	8:03 a.m.	12:14 p.m.	7:24 p.m.
Location	High	Low	Monday	
Japan			High	Low
Yokosuka	10:45 a.m.	6:02 a.m.	none	5:31 p.m.
Sasebo	3:10 a.m.	9:27 a.m.	3:05 p.m.	9:18 p.m.
Naha	2:01 a.m.	8:03 a.m.	1:32 p.m.	8:05 p.m.
Hachinohe	8:27 a.m.	3:53 a.m.	10:52 p.m.	3:39 p.m.
Korea				
Cheju Island/Sogwip'o	4:49 a.m.	12:03 p.m.	5:54 p.m.	11:57 p.m.
Kunsan	9:41 a.m.	3:46 a.m.	10:30 p.m.	4:50 p.m.
Guam				
Apra Harbor	2:44 a.m.	9:02 a.m.	1:46 p.m.	8:17 p.m.

For tides at other sites apply minutes to Naha tides:
Sukku, Ora Wan: -39, Sesoko Byohi: +11 high and low tide;
Unten Ko: -7 high, -8 low, Yonabaru, Buckner Bay: -44 high, -42 low.



AccuWeather.com

Shown is Sunday's weather. Temperatures are Sunday's highs and Sunday night's lows. Pressure systems and fronts are for noon Sunday, Tokyo time.

CANADA

EUROPE

MIDDLE EAST

City	Hi	Lo	W
Calgary	70	38	P
Edmonton	61	33	Rain
Halifax	55	47	Shwr
Iqaluit	35	26	Cloudy
Montreal	57	34	PClidy
Ottawa	55	37	PClidy
Quebec	55	29	Cloudy
Regina	73	43	PClidy
Toronto	61	38	P
Vancouver	62	55	Cloudy
Whitehorse	55	32	PClidy
Windзор	58	42	PClidy
Winnipeg	62	43	PClidy
Yellowknife	36	16	Cloudy

City	Hi	Lo	W
Athens	80	67	Cloudy
Belgrade	85	61	Sun
Berlin	71	59	Cloudy
Brussels	61	52	Shwr
Dublin	57	46	Rain
Glasgow	55	48	Shwr
Lisbon	70	55	PClidy
Kabul	91	53	Sun
Kandahar	109	58	Sun
Karachi	92	83	Sun
Khartoum	110	75	Sun
Kisangani	83	68	Shwr
Kuala Lumpur	93	76	Sun
Lima	76	60	PClidy
Manila	88	77	Sun
Manila	88	77	Sun
Osaka	74	55	Sun
Paris	61	52	Rain
Rome	79	62	Sun
Tel Aviv	88	70	Sun
Zahedan	94	68	Sun

City	Hi	Lo	W
Abidjan	89	75	Sun
Algiers	84	75	Sun
Cairo	100	75	Sun
Dhahran	104	81	Sun
Casablanca	72	57	PClidy
Durban	72	48	PClidy
Freetown	91	75	Tstm
Gavana	84	67	Rain
Kingston	86	77	Rain
Lima	76	60	PClidy
Makassar	102	72	PClidy
Mogadishu	86	77	Rain
Santiago	59	59	Cloudy
Santo Domingo	82	71	Rain
San Jose	75	69	Rain

SUNDAY'S STATESIDE OUTLOOK

City	Hi	Lo	W	City	Hi	Lo	W	City	Hi	Lo	W
Abilene, TX	74	53	P	Colorado Springs	77	48	Sun	Hartford	64	36	Tstm
Akron, OH	59	34	PClidy	Columbia, SC	81	51	Tstm	New Orleans	83	61	Tstm
Albany, NY	62	35	PClidy	Columbus, GA	70	56	Tstm	Antigua	89	75	Sun
Albuquerque	84	58	Sun	Columbus, OH	63	36	PClidy	Acapulco	88	74	Cloudy
Allentown, PA	62	39	PClidy	Concord, NH	66	32	Cloudy	Bogota	66	49	Shwr
Amarillo	74	48	Sun	Corpus Christi	88	63	Tstm	Buenos Aires	66	52	PClidy
Anchorage	62	42	Sun	Dallas	77	54	PClidy	Cancun	90	71	Shwr
Asheville	68	42	Tstm	Dayton	62	36	Sun	Durban	62	54	Rain
Atlanta	66	49	Tstm	Daytona Beach	83	67	Sun	Dhaka	83	81	Tstm
Atlantic City	64	39	Sun	Denver	81	57	Sun	Hong Kong	88	76	Cloudy
Baltimore	64	44	Sun	Detroit	67	49	Sun	Kathmandu	91	67	Cloudy
Baton Rouge	73	54	Tstm	Duluth	60	39	Sun	Lima	76	60	PClidy
Billings	67	48	Sun	Lake Charles	79	58	Tstm	Melbourne	64	50	Cloudy
Birmingham	67	48	Tstm	El Paso	87	63	Sun	Mumbai	65	81	PClidy
Bismarck	77	48	Sun	Elkins	63	30	PClidy	New Delhi	114	86	PClidy
Boise	89	59	Sun	Erle	53	37	PClidy	Phnom Penh	91	78	Rain
Boston	62	44	Shwr	Fort Smith	79	46	PClidy	Shanghai	75	59	PClidy
Bridgeport	66	43	Shwr	Fort Wayne	62	36	Sun	Sydney	70	52	Sun
Brownsville	88	68	Tstm	Fargo	70	50	PClidy	Taipei	83	74	Shwr
Buffalo	57	36	PClidy	Flagstaff	81	40	Tstm	Xining	65	43	Rain
Burlington	60	32	PClidy	Flint	57	35	PClidy				
Caribou, ME	57	33	Shwr	Fort Smith	65	50	Sun				
Casper	82	43	Sun	Fort Wayne	62	36	Sun				
Charleston, SC	69	37	PClidy	Frederick	108	84	Sun				
Charlottesville, VA	73	48	Tstm	Frederick	81	52	Sun				
Charlotte, NC	69	46	PClidy	Grand Junction	87	54	Sun				
Chattanooga	77	48	Sun	Great Falls	57	35	PClidy				
Cheyenne	57	41	Sun	Green Bay	82	46	Sun				
Chicago	63	42	PClidy	Hannibal	76	55	Tstm				
Cincinnati	58	37	PClidy	Hannibal	73	54	Tstm				
Cleveland	63	41	PClidy	Harrisburg	63	41	PClidy				
				Nashville	69	46	PClidy				

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SUNDAY'S FORECAST

Northern Japan

Day: Rain, some heavy. High 66.

Night: Mild with rain. Low 56.

Kanto Plain

Day: Rain tapering off. High 72.

Night: Breezy early; clearing. Low 63.

Southern Japan

Day: Clearing. High 74.

Night: Increasing clouds. Low 61.

Okinawa

Day: An afternoon shower. High 82.

Night: Mainly clear. Low 70.

Korea

Day: A brief morning shower. High 71.

Night: Mainly clear. Low 48.

Guam

Day: A few morning showers. High 88.

Night: Clear and breezy. Low 75.

MONDAY'S FORECAST

Northern Japan

Day: Clearing. High 69.

Night: Mainly clear and mild. Low 57.

Kanto Plain

Day: Sun, then clouds. High 76.

Night: Cloudy. Low 64.

Southern Japan

Day: Becoming cloudy. High 71.

Night: Rain of varying rates. Low 62.

Okinawa

Day: Showers around. High 82.

Night: Cloudy; breezy late. Low 71.

Korea

Day: Partly sunny and nice. High 71.

Night: Mostly cloudy. Low 50.

Guam

Day: A brief shower or two. High 87.

Night: A shower early; cloudy. Low 75.

TUESDAY'S FORECAST

Northern Japan

Day: Pleasant with sunshine. High 68.

Night: Clear and mild. Low 57.

Kanto Plain

Day: Cloudy and very warm. High 82.

Night: Cloudy with rain late. Low 60.

Southern Japan

Day: Humid with heavy rain. High 73.

Night: Cloudy, showers around. Low 67.

Okinawa

Day: Cloudy, showers around. High 80.

Night: Rain and drizzle. Low 72.

Korea

Day: Sunshine and pleasant. High 78.

Night: Increasing cloudiness. Low 55.

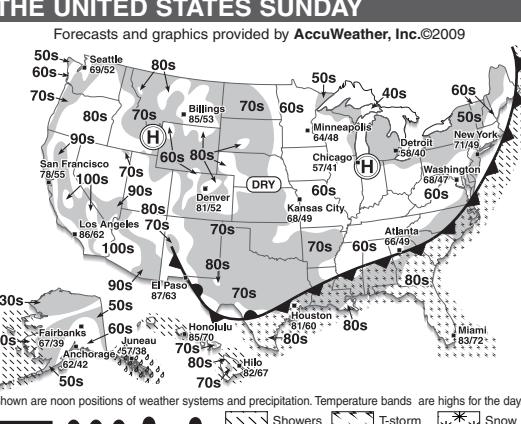
Guam

Day: Showers around. High 86.

Night: A stray shower late. Low 75.

Sunday	Monday
Sunrise (Seoul)	5:22 a.m.
Sunset	7:37 p.m.
Sunrise (Tokyo)	4:35 a.m.
Sunset	6:41 p.m.
Last May 17	New May 24
New May 31	First June 8
Full June 8	

THE UNITED STATES SUNDAY



Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2009

YOUR MONEY

No laughing matter

Bonuses account for about two-thirds of paychecks at big Wall St. firms

BY MATT ANDREJCZAK
MarketWatch

Just after Labor Day, investment bank executives huddle with their compensation advisers for the all-important bonus discussion. Bonuses are the lifeblood of Wall Street, helping bankers and traders buy expensive homes, art and cars.

Wall Street bonuses hit a zenith in 2006, just as the bubbles in the U.S. housing and stock markets were nearing capitulation. It is estimated the five largest U.S. investment banks handed out \$36 billion to around 173,000 employees.

While some close to Wall Street don't bat an eye at the millions of dollars earned by employees at investment banks, other Americans living far from The Street are appalled by the staggering sums. Wall Street banks are public enemy No. 1 over the meltdown in the U.S. economy and the loss of modest-income jobs even though thousands of bankers lost jobs too.

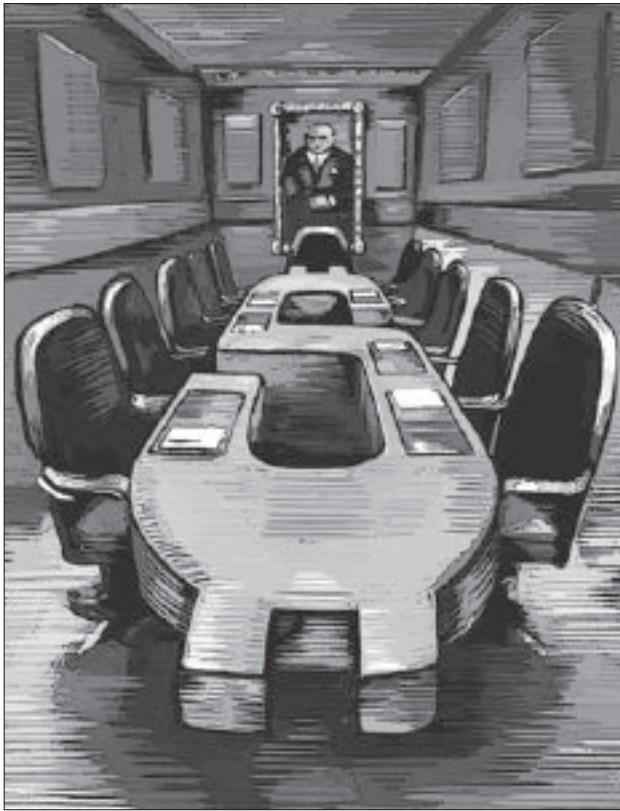
The Wall Street titans left standing have scrambled to justify why pay seems so high. Public scrutiny used to be less vehement — until they received U.S. government bailout funds, brought to Uncle Sam's doorstep by huge losses from bad subprime loans and related trades.

Ask AIG: Protesters showed up the Connecticut mansions of AIG executives.

Or former Citigroup CEO Charles Prince: Shareholders want a piece of his \$30 million exit package. He quit in November 2007 after Citigroup was swamped in subprime losses.

Or Stan O'Neal: Congress asked the former Merrill Lynch CEO to explain why he pocketed \$161.8 million when he stepped aside in October 2007. Lawmakers were told it was pay O'Neal earned from stock awards prior to the mortgage crisis that pummeled Merrill.

The trouble began, in part, when the investment banks became shareholder-owned compa-



TIM LEE/MCT

While some close to Wall Street don't bat an eye at the millions of dollars earned by employees at investment banks, other Americans living far from The Street are appalled by the staggering sums.

nies and retained the pay perks of private fiefdoms, doling out bonuses even if shareholders felt snake-bitten.

The beaten-down giants now face government pay restrictions and a talent flight to boutique banks with more attractive pay models. Banks are now selling new stock, hungry to repay TARP funds and free themselves from the government's pay shackles.

Unlike other public corporations, Wall Street CEOs and top executives are paid a lower base salary, a decades-long practice used when investment banks had

smaller capital bases. But potential bonuses — paid mostly in various kinds of stock awards — can run into the tens of millions, dwarfing regular CEO bonuses.

Bonuses make up close to two-thirds of total compensation at the biggest Wall Street firms, according to executive pay consultants and corporate governance watchers.

Since annual compensation is bonus top-heavy, "so much pay is at risk and based on the short term," says Christopher Plath, corporate governance analyst at Moody's, the credit-rating ser-

vice. "These firms are predicated on taking big risks for big payouts."

Bonus fever along The Street was more sobering when 2008 came to a close. CEOs at Goldman Sachs and Morgan Stanley — the two investment banks left standing after the stock market slaughter — declined to take any bonus as did a few of their chief lieutenants.

Public outrage has made Wall Street sound a bit more rueful. Looking back on the glory days, Goldman CEO Lloyd Blankfein acknowledged at a recent industry conference that compensation decisions looked "self-serving and greedy in hindsight."

The TARP program has put curbs on executive pay at bailed out banks, which has led some bankers to jump over to boutique banks or foreign-based financial services firms.

Morgan Stanley and Swiss-based UBS are taking additional steps. The banks have enacted new compensation programs aimed at multiyear performance and repercussions for detrimental conduct.

"[Morgan CEO John J.J. Mack has turned his bonus back for the past two years. ... You can argue about the actual size of his performance pay, but he's been a leader in this area," said Richard Ferlauto, director of corporate governance at AFSCME, a labor fund group known to be CEO-pay critics.

Some suggestions being floated to alter the relationship between Wall Street pay and risk include: making Wall Street CEOs take a higher salary, subjecting long-term incentive awards to cancellation provisions, structuring pay arrangements to avoid excessive risk-taking, and forcing senior executives to retain the bulk of stock awards until they retire.

"If they change the compensation system to more of a liability system, then it might change behavior," said William Cohan, a former investment banker and now-author of books about Lazard Freres and Bear Stearns. "People do what they are rewarded to do."

The infamous CEO perks

SAN FRANCISCO — Running big public companies is hard work, so many executives get a little help to keep their noses to the grindstone.

Use of company jets, cars and drivers, free home security, free financial planning advice and country club memberships. Some of these perquisites, or perks, keep coming after retirement. Even in death, the money keeps flowing in the form of so-called golden coffins.

Here are some of the most egregious perks from the golden era of executive compensation, according to corporate governance experts.

1. OFFICE RENOVATIONS

John Thain, the former head of NYSE Euronext, was hired by Merrill Lynch in late 2007 to steer the struggling brokerage firm through the financial crisis.

Soon after his appointment, Thain spent \$1.2 million to renovate his new office, two conference rooms and a reception area. Furniture included a \$35,113.50 "commode on legs," a \$68,178 19th-century credenza and a pair of guest chairs costing \$87,783.

2. KEEPING THE CEO SAFE

If companies are paying top dollar to attract and retain the best executives, some figure it's only right to protect the investment. Affiliated Computer Services spent more than \$1.7 million from 2004 through 2007 for security systems for Chairman and founder Darwin Deason, according to the company's 2007 proxy statement.

3. COUNTRY CLUB MEMBERSHIPS

Some CEOs like to unwind at country clubs. Companies say there's a business purpose for this perk: hobnobbing with other executives can lead to new deals and ideas. Countrywide Financial, now owned by Bank of America, paid more than \$940,000 in country club memberships for CEO Angelo Mozilo and other executives.

4. CARS AND GAS

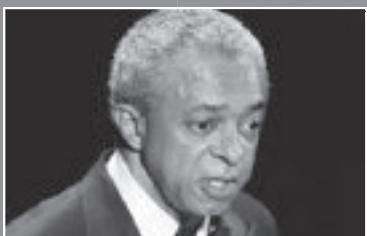
Ford Motor Co. and General Motors provide executives with two free cars a year and free gas as part of broader "vehicle evaluation" programs that require managers to give the companies feedback on how their vehicles are performing.

5. EXECS, FAMILIES FLY IN STYLE

But why drive when you can fly? Ford paid for the family of CEO Alan Mulally to fly between Michigan and Seattle. They used to fly on company aircraft, but the automaker is selling its planes. Ford will now charter private aircraft for the CEO, and his family will be allowed to travel with him on trips.

— Alistair Barr (Marketwatch)

Barons of the boardroom behaving badly



Former Merrill Lynch CEO Stan O'Neal pocketed \$161.8 million when he left the company in October 2007, before the mortgage crisis pummeled Merrill.



Ford Motor Co. CEO Alan Mulally has his family accompany him on some business trips. Ford used to allow the family to travel on company planes, but now the company will charter private aircraft.



Current Merrill Lynch CEO John Thain famously spent \$1.2 million to renovate his new office, two conference rooms and a reception area.



Shareholders want a piece of former Citigroup CEO Charles Prince's \$30 million exit package. He quit in November 2007 after Citigroup was swamped in subprime losses.

YOUR MONEY

Chrysler, GM closures may affect owners

By MARTIN ZIMMERMAN
Los Angeles Times

With thousands of Chrysler and General Motors Corp. dealerships closing, customers could be confronted with problems over warranty coverage, trade-ins and other matters.

Both automakers pledge to make the transition as painless as possible, but that doesn't mean there won't be problems.

Here are some issues GM and Chrysler customers may face.

Manufacturer warranties: These are the warranties that are included in the price of a vehicle and cover specified repairs for a specific period of time — three years or 36,000 miles, for instance. They're backed by the manufacturer, not the dealer, and are good at any of the manufacturer licensed dealers.

GM and Chrysler have pledged to stand behind their warranties, but consumers may face a long drive to the nearest authorized dealer.

Extended service agreements: These go by many names, often vehicle service contracts or extended warranties, but the bottom line is generally the same: For an additional charge, the contract pays for when certain things go wrong with the vehicle for a set period of time — usually after the manufacturer's warranty runs out.

These contracts typically are backed by a third party. If backed by Chrysler, the automaker said its other dealers will honor the contract. If backed by a contract provider, Chrysler said the vehicle owner should check the contract for information on where to go for repairs.

Vehicle repair history: Failing to perform recommended service can invalidate a warranty — and lacking the records to prove the services were per-



Employees stand outside of the Archer Chrysler Jeep dealership in Houston on Thursday. The dealership is scheduled to close as part of Chrysler's restructuring process.

formed can have the same result.

Maintenance records should be transferred when a dealership closes, but don't count on it. Car owners who haven't kept their own vehicle repair records should get copies while their dealer's doors are still open, said Pat Goss of Carchex, a provider of consumer automotive services.

Financing: Financing arrangements should not be affected by the dealer closings.

Sales perks: If a dealer promised a special incentive — such as a year's worth of free car washes — and then closed its doors before fulfilling the bargain, other dealers aren't obligated to provide the service.

Buying a new car from a dealer going out of business: Since Chrysler and GM have pledged to stand behind their warranties, it could be a good time to hunt for bargains as dealers try to unload inventory. The vehicle can be taken to another dealer for warranty repairs if necessary.

But experts note that prices already have been slashed to the bone to cope with the current sales slump, so some dealers may be unwilling to cut prices as much as some buyers expect.

THURSDAY'S MARKET SUMMARY

INDEXES

52-week				Net	%	YTD	52-wk
High	Low	Name	Last	Chg	Chg	% Chg	% Chg
13,136.69	6,469.95	Dow Jones Industrials	8,331.32	+46.43	+.56	-5.07	-35.88
5,536.57	2,134.21	Dow Jones Transportation	3,035.48	+36.03	+1.20	-14.18	-43.79
530.57	288.66	Dow Jones Utilities	338.89	-1.18	-.35	-8.60	-33.93
9,687.24	4,181.75	NYSE Composite	5,733.45	+66.98	+1.18	-.41	-39.99
2,433.31	1,130.47	Amex Index	1,483.86	+10.21	+.69	+6.18	-36.76
2,551.47	1,265.52	Nasdaq Composite	1,689.21	+25.02	+1.50	+7.11	-33.33
1,440.24	666.79	S&P 500	893.07	+19.15	+1.04	+1.13	-37.27
897.37	397.97	S&P MidCap	551.59	+8.88	+1.64	+2.47	-37.40
14,564.81	6,772.29	Wilshire 5000	9,103.28	+103.91	+1.15	+1.18	-36.80
764.38	342.59	Russell 2000	480.71	+8.89	+1.88	-3.75	-35.33

NYSE

Most Active (\$1 or more)

Name Vol (00) Last Chg

AMEX

Most Active (\$1 or more)

Name Vol (00) Last Chg

NASDAQ

Most Active (\$1 or more)

Name Vol (00) Last Chg

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates

Japanese yen (May 18) 93.00

South Korean won (May 18) 1,239.00

Euro costs (May 18) \$1,3900

Dollar buys (May 18) € 0.7194

British pound (May 18) £ 1.56

Commercial rates

Bahrain (Dinar) 0.3768

British pound £ 1.5266

Canada (Dollar) 1.1680

China (Yuan) 6.8275

Denmark (Krone) 5.4765

Egypt (Pound) 5.6200

Euro \$1.3594/0.7356

Hong Kong (Dollar) 7.7509

Hungary (Forint) 210.26

Israel (Shekel) 4.1420

Japan (Yen) 95.37

Kuwait (Dinar) 0.2896

Norway (Krone) 6.4843

Philippines (Peso) 47.57

Poland (Zloty) 3.28

Saudi Arabia (Riyal) 3.7507

Singapore (Dollar) 1.4662

South Korea (Won) 1,252.40

Switzerland (Franc) 1.1052

Thailand (Baht) 34.56

Turkey (New Lira) 1.5628

(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

KEY DEFENSE STOCKS

KEY MUTUAL FUNDS

YTD

Name Div PE Last Chg % Chg

Alliant Techsystems 19 32 84.37 -.70 -1.6

BellSouth 1.68 10 43.44 +.49 +1.8

Computer Sciences 6 36 36.47 +.32 +2.8

General Dynamics 1.52 9 55.84 +.54 +2.0

General Electric .49 8 13.04 +.13 -19.5

Halliburton .36 15 21.79 -.11 +19.9

Harris Corp. .80 12 29.17 +.32 -19.0

Allied Signal 1.21 9 31.92 +.55 -2.8

L-3 Communications 1.40 10 75.03 +.27 +1.7

Lockheed Martin 2.28 10 88.87 +.34 -3.8

Northrop Grumman 1.52 10 48.83 +.47 +8.5

Raytheon 1.24 11 47.02 -.18 -7.9

Rockwell Int'l. 1.16 10 31.27 +.42 -3.0

Texas Instruments .44 18 17.54 +.47 +13.0

Textron Inc. .08 8 10.98 +.45 -20.8

United Technologies 1.54 11 51.51 +.90 -3.9

AMF Investments A: ChartA p 12.21 +.12 +5.2

AMF Investments A: Const p 16.53 +.16 -1.8

Frank/Tennant A: SMCPGrA 21.96 +.22 +8.4

Frank/Tennant S: C-GrA 19.59 +.11 +3.4

Fidelity Advisor T: EdnT 16.74 +.25 +8

Fidelity Advisor T: GrOpT 21.15 +.29 +11.1

DWS Invest S: Inf Fds 34.92 +.58 +8

Putnam Funds A: GbEqTy p 6.46 +.08 +1.4

Lord Abbett A: DevGta p 11.56 +.23 +9.0

Fidelity Advisor T: OrvseaT 13.17 +.11 -1.9

DWS Invest S: CorpFinc 9.73 ... +1.9

PRECIOUS METALS

New York Merc close

Gold \$928.00

Silver \$14.020

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate 3.25

Discount rate 0.50

Federal funds market rate 0.00-0.25

3-month bill 0.15

30-year bond 4.05

Sources: Bank of America, The Associated Press

Don't let disputes go to collections

Dear Liz: Our FICO score is above 900. When we retired and moved to Oregon, our previous landlord in California imposed false charges against our security deposit that we refused to pay. The landlord has since turned the account over to a collection agency that indicates it will notify all three credit agencies of this outstanding amount. How will this affect our FICO score?

Answer: The top FICO score is actually 850. If the last score you saw was over 900, you probably were looking at a Vantage-Score, which isn't used by as many lenders.

In any case, your scores probably will drop if the collection agency follows through on its threat. How much they'll drop depends on the rest of your credit history, how much the collector says you owe and which version of the FICO formula a lender happens to use (the latest, FICO 08, excludes collections under \$100).

Typically, though, collections are considered a serious negative that can easily knock your score out of the "prime" range.

This is why you don't let disputes go to collections. You would have been better off paying the landlord under protest and then suing him or her in Small Claims Court.

Dear Liz: We bought a house five years ago for \$410,000. Meanwhile, our income in the last year has decreased by about \$30,000 annually. We are trying to work with our lender to stay in our house, but things are tight and we don't know how much longer we will be able to keep making payments on this house.

What would be the downside of doing a short sale, renting for a couple of years until we could buy again? It seems like we would be able to save up while we were renting, and I can't see house prices doubling in the next two years. What do you think would be our best option?

Answer: You're right that home prices won't recover their lost value any time soon. But that alone isn't good reason to bail on a mortgage, particularly given the fallout such a move can have on your finances.

The damage to your credit will be significant. Short sales — selling a home for less than what's owed, with the lender's consent — typically harm credit scores as much as foreclosures do.

And these days it's harder to recover from a serious credit blow than it used to be. Fewer lenders are willing to take chances on those with subpar credit.

You may be able to qualify for a mortgage again within a couple of years, but you'll probably pay higher rates for all your credit for several years.

If you can't work something out with your lender and can no longer afford the payments, you may not have much of a choice. But given the stakes involved, you should explore all your options for saving the house before you turn in your keys.

Liz Pulliam Weston is the author of the book "Your Credit Score: Your Money and What's at Stake." Questions for possible inclusion in her column may be sent to 3940 Laurel Canyon Blvd., No. 238, Studio City, CA 91604, or via the "Contact Liz" form at www.asklizweston.com. Distributed by No More Red Inc.

industry group said in the report on its Web site.

Indian vehicle sales rise 1.1 percent

MUMBAI, India — India's vehicle sales continued to rise in April, growing 1.1 percent from the year before to a record monthly high of 1.15 million units, according to industry figures released Friday.

Passenger car sales surged 37 percent over a year earlier to 831,000, outpacing U.S. sales in April of 820,000 units, according to figures from the China Association of Automobile Manufacturers.

After slowing late last year as the impact from the global financial crisis deepened, China's auto sales have risen for five straight months.

A large share of sales in April

were of small cars and cross-over vehicles promoted by tax cuts and other policies favoring vehicles with engine displacement of 1.6 liters or less, the in-

creased sales of which were driven by the global automakers like General Motors, Ford and Volkswagen have ramped up investments in India hoping to capture some of the fast-expanding market.

From The Associated Press

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Stars FREE Classified

Selling your couch, your car or your Stephen King collection?

Sell it FREE in Stripes classified.

Up to 32 words FREE for 21 days!

Free Ad Guidelines:

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- Free ads run for 21 days and on a space available basis only.
- Please spell out each word. No abbreviations.
- Item prices must be listed.
- Free ads are available for private parties only. For information on commercial or in-home business ads, please call 229-3276.
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Address _____

Your ad _____

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03-6385-3276 (Commercial)
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645-7667 (Okinawa DSN)
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645-7667 (Okinawa DSN)

Mail us at:

Unit 45002, APO AP 96337-5002
7-23-17 Roppongi, Minato-ku,
Tokyo 106-0032 Japan

Email us at:
classifieds@pstripes.osd.mil

Deadline to place, cancel, or make any change to an ad is five (5) business days prior to publishing date. If the ad has a typographical error, Pacific Stars and Stripes' liability is to re-run the ad for one (1) additional day on the next available issue date. Any other problem with advertising must be filed in writing no later than ten (10) days after the first insertion of the ad. Ads cannot be run upside down or sideways.

All Classified Advertisements Are Non-refundable

Classified advertising is accepted from DoD personnel (private party ad Classified advertisements) and all organizations which provide a service of interest to the military community (business advertisements). All ads are assessed before acceptance according to the moral and ethical judgment of Pacific Stars and Stripes. Classified advertisements must be acceptable for our general military/family readership. Pacific Stars and Stripes has the right to return any and all ads considered inappropriate for publication.



Announcements 040

Take Control of Your Finances

- Reduce interest rates
- Stop late fees & collector calls
- Completely confidential
- Reduced fees for military

Free Debt Analysis

**FAMILY CREDIT
MANAGEMENT**
Non-Profit Organization
counselor@familycredit.org

Chat with a certified credit counselor online at www.familycredit.org/military

Individuals placing classified advertising should use discretion in concluding the sale of their property. Not all potential buyers are reputable or honest. S&S suggests that you take precautions to ensure that potential buyers are reputable and will be able to fulfill the terms of the sale. S&S is not liable for the contractual relationship between sellers and buyers of merchandise advertised in the newspaper or on the web site.

Your Hometown Newspaper
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Announcements 040

Welcoming Baby Rachel!

Create a memory for life!

Email classifieds@pstripes.osd.mil or
call DSN 229-3276

C'mon Get Happy!

Get your Happy Ad in Stripes today!
Want to hook up with an old friend?
Send your girlfriend a birthday greeting?
Or congratulate your friend on a recent promotion?
Whatever the occasion, book your Happy Ad today in Stars and Stripes!

Check out the details:

1. Email your greeting and digital photo to classifieds@pstripes.osd.mil.
2. Stars and Stripes reserves the right to edit or reject any Happy Ad.
3. A one-time \$35 fee for each ad must be prepaid prior to publication. You may opt to use a credit card or you may visit the nearest Stars and Stripes circulation office and pay by check.

Your Hometown Newspaper
STARS AND STRIPES
www.stripes.com

Autos for Sale 141

Autos for Sale 141

Autos for Sale 141

Iwakuni - 1990 Skyline GTR (Iwakuni). This is the twin turbo all wheel drive model. I have thousands of dollars of after-market parts, including a second motor. Please email for list of what I have. \$8500 obo for everything. Contact Scott at 0 8 0 - 3 4 7 4 - 8 8 5 6 or potwic@gmail.com

Sasebo - 2005 Dodge Magnum R/T in Sasebo, with heated leather seats, 5 speed automatic, 4.7L 300hp, 22" wheels, KW coilovers, Magnaflow exhaust. Sun roof, LED tail lights, Rockford Fosgate stereo system, Side mirror LED blinkers, Body Kit, Billet grill, dual zone A/C, 47,000 miles. Fully registered in Japan and state-side legal (bought in Hawaii). Asking \$15,000.00 OBO. Contact D. a. r. r. l. a. t. e. c. o. l. e. dtelosd@lhd.navymil or call 08032719224.

Atsugi, Japan - 1995 Mitsubishi FVR 64K km, JCI good thru July 2010. Read tax good thru May 2010. Forest green. All wheel drive. Tires less than 1 year old. Full sized spare. New front bearings and brakes. Relatively runner, has proven itself on numerous trips to Nara and beyond! \$1900. Call George 080-263 0239. Photos on request!

Yokosuka - 1996 Red Nissan March 4DR. Automatic, well maintained, clean interior. Road Taxes already paid, runs great. Great on gas. JCI until June 2010. Base Inspection until May 2010. \$1200 OBO. Phone: 045-774-9110

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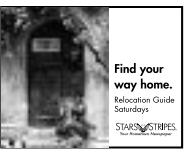
STRIPES CLASSIFIED

Home Electronics 570

Yokota, Japan - XBOX 360, 8 Games and More! XBOX 360 with hard drive and wireless internet connector, 8 Games included in this offer. Madden 2007, 2008, and 2009, Madden 2007, MLB 2K7, NCAA Football 07, Perfect Dark Zero, and Grand Theft Auto 4 (must be 17 for this game). Asking \$175. Please call 713-490-0601 or email steetpler79@yahoo.com

Musical Instruments 740

Yokota, Japan - Fender Cyber-Twin SE Amplifier. Some of the features it has are 2 12inch, 8 ohm GT100 Celestion speakers, 2 preamp tubes, 43 effects selections w/4-5 adjustable parameters each, 10 delay FX, 11 modulation FX, 3 special FX, FX controls, and 100W of power. In excellent condition. Includes 2 foot switches, removable casters, original instruction manual and cover asking \$1000. Please call 509-343-0811 or email brittany_cunningham@hotmail.com. Used for recording for 1 year. <http://guitars.musiciansfriend.com/product/Fender-Cyber-Twin-SE-Amp?sku=480867>

Find your way home.
Relocation Guide
Saturdays
STARS&STRIPES
The Weekly Guide

Musical Instruments 740

Yokota, Japan - Guitar AMP - Fender Power Chorus 2x12 combo I am selling my guitar amp. A Fender Power Chorus 2x12 combo guitar amp & foot switch. The guitar can get VERY loud sounds beautiful and in an absolutely wonderful shape. Almost perfect except for a few surface scratches on the back (from being moved around). You would be lucky to find this for less than \$300 used, especially in Japan... but I am asking only \$200. I will also throw in a black telephone SG with soft case) that is in great condition as well (it just has some band stickers on it). I am living in Fussa, but will ship this to you in Japan via COD (you pay for shipping upon arrival) or to the US w/ USPS and to APO/MPS. This is a great amp; I just can't take care with me. Contact me ASAP. Please call Tony 080-540-7204

Outdoor Living 775

Tokyo/Hardy Barracks - Just in time for Memorial Day! (2) Gas Grill tanks for sale. (1) Full (1) Empty. Both tanks available for \$250 and refills \$25-30 on base. Selling both for \$30 firm. You pick up in Tokyo. Yoko 080-5053-5797.

Yokota, Japan - Fence North Housing Fence for small yard. Perfect for keeping pets in the yard. 3 yrs old. Good Shape, 10' X 24'. It is the exact length for North Housing. We paid \$1,000. Would need you to pull and transport. Asking \$400. Please call 214-261-6361 or email mneele@armed-svc.com

Outdoor Living 775

Yokota, Japan - North Side Housing Awning for sale. Complete with gutter and downspout. 3 yrs old. Excellent shape you will need to take down and move. 1051D North Housing Asking \$500. Please call 090-4477-0979 or email mneele@armed-svc.com

Pets 820

Atcugi Adorable 11 year old female mix of Husky & Schnauzer. Silver hair, spayed, good with kids & dogs, healthy. Needs to find a loving home ASAP. USSKITYTALK-YOKOSUKA@GMAIL.COM

Atsugi - His name is Max. He is a whippet, and he is free to a good home. He is approximately 3 years old, and is current on his shots. He is neutered. He is well-behaved, and good with other animals, and children. For pictures, email a i i i notoriousty@hotmail.com

Tokyo, Japan - FREE! Female Cats St-Ann and National are still here. They are 6 years young and have been micro-chipped front de-clawed, and spayed (\$600+). They are indoor cats and have not been allowed to be outside. They are very clean and loving. They have been a part of our family since they were 6 weeks old. They have done well with our children. If you are interested, please call for more details. They are currently on all shots and have records at the base vet clinic. Food bowls, litter box, and kennel are included. They make a great team! Please call 713-490-3033 or email gmmmv@aol.com

Pets 820

Yokota, Japan - Female Cat Female calico short hair cat. 2 years old. Spayed, front-declaw, micro-chipped, shots up to date, indoors only. She is happy to come up to you on the couch and sit on your lap, and purr with you. Okay with children, but preferably older children. We have a 1 year old who adores her, but we aren't around much to give her all the attention she needs. We are also PCSing soon and are facing difficulties with our travel arrangements. Litter box, food, dishes, bed, and food included. Please call 090-6477-0979 or email mneele@armed-svc.com

Yokota, Japan - FREE! adult male cat comes with automatic litter box and feeder. Declawed and fixed. Only serious responses please email Katie Vilkund 2700@ yahoo.com

Yokota, Japan - Kent marine iron & manganese 64oz brand never opened, ordered extra great for saltwater tanks (not the actual picture) I have a bigger bottle 64oz Kent Marine Super Chelated Iron Supplement with manganese present on all reef inhabitants. Although present salt mixes, iron is rapidly used up in the system, and removed through precipitation. Super Chelated Iron Supplement supplies needed iron, manganese, potassium and minor trace minerals for proper growth and health. www.kentmarine.com and those invertebrates which have symbiotic algae living in their tissues. It contains a chelated form of iron which will stay available in the system for long periods of time, supplying algae in a timed release fashion, as in Asking \$250 Please call 090-6477-0979 or email mneele@armed-svc.com

Yokota, Japan - Dachshund. 3 years old male Dachshund. We are looking for a good home for our dog. He is a 3 year old Japanese Dachshund. He's been with our family since he was a puppy. He's neutered, great with other pets and loves people. He is state trained. We are PCSing to a base that allows 2 pets per house and we have another dog and a cat. Please contact us 080-6545-9036 or email ploser_98@yahoo.com if you are interested in giving our sweet dog a forever home.

Yokota, Japan - Turtles I have 5 turtles that I got for free and I don't want them anymore. I would like to find a good home for them. If you would like them please let me know. Please call 314-558-3429 or email mnskatergirl99@aol.com

Pets 820

Zama/SHA - 1 1/2 yr old male MINIATURE Long-haired Dachshund. Great family dog. House trained, good with kids, very lovable. Shot up to date, micro-chipped. \$600 obo. Our son is allergic, so we need to find a new home. email midodog@yahoo.com for info.

Pet Accessories 822

Yokota, Japan - Dog Jogging Stroller. Perfect for jogging with your dog. Great for fresh air. Asking \$180. Please call 090-261-6361 or email aussiedolphin@hotmail.com

Yokota, Japan - FREE! adult male cat comes with automatic litter box and feeder. Declawed and fixed. Only serious responses please email Katie Vilkund 2700@ yahoo.com

Yokota, Japan - Kent marine iron & manganese 64oz brand never opened, ordered extra great for saltwater tanks (not the actual picture) I have a bigger bottle 64oz Kent Marine Super Chelated Iron Supplement with manganese present on all reef inhabitants. Although present salt mixes, iron is rapidly used up in the system, and removed through precipitation. Super Chelated Iron Supplement supplies needed iron, manganese, potassium and minor trace minerals for proper growth and health. www.kentmarine.com and those invertebrates which have symbiotic algae living in their tissues. It contains a chelated form of iron which will stay available in the system for long periods of time, supplying algae in a timed release fashion, as in Asking \$250 Please call 090-6477-0979 or email mneele@armed-svc.com

Yokota, Japan - Black leather ballet shoes. New never been worn. Girls Size 2 asking \$10. Call 614-358-4889.

Yokota, Japan - Bloch pink leather ballet shoes. Girls split sole, leather with canvas instep. Ballet slipper. Elastics are sewed on to X shape. I have 3 and 3 1/2 w but it's really small, so kid's 13-1 1/2 new never been wear will fit good. Paid \$23.50 + S&H for each asking \$15 for each Call 614-358-4889.

Yokota, Japan - Ping Clones Golf clubs Right Handed set, regular steel shaft. 3-PW over size good start set. Set is in good conditions. Asking \$60 call Eduardo at 210-881-4403

Photography 830

Yokota, Japan - Nikon 55-200 mm Telephoto Lens Nikon Telephoto lens. Fit all Nikon cameras using the AF-I or AF-S lenses. Extends from 55mm to 200mm. I need more focal length. Asking \$180. OBO. Please call 850-254-9049 or email filam_dan@yahoo.com

Pet Accessories 822

Yokota, Japan - Panasonic DMC-FZ50 10.1MP Digital Camera with 12x zoom. Comes with SD card, charger, lens cap, and cleaning kit for lens. Asking \$240 or best offer. Please call Miggly 080-5501-6602

Zama - Treadmill speed 10 MPH, incline 10%. Step Counter. Fan, tracks speed, time, distance, pulse, speed, heart rate, incline, pace, airsoft cushion deck. Fold Up New \$899, sell \$200 263-7194

Miscellaneous 1040

Zama - Sigma 50-500mm f/4-6.3 EX DG APO HSM for Nikon DSLR. Excellent A++++ condition, only taken out for about 2 dozen test photos. Includes special filter cap and case. Asking price is \$75. Contact me at mahimahi5_0@hotmail.com

Zama - Sigma 50-500mm f/4-6.3 EX DG APO HSM for Nikon DSLR. Excellent A++++ condition, no scratches, no blemishes, nothing wrong. Very useful 10x zoom. Comes with lens hood, padded case (no strap for case), lens strap, and a filter box and no warranty card. Asking \$950. Regular retail is \$1200. Contact me at mahimahi5_0@hotmail.com

Yokota, Japan - Black leather ballet shoes. New never been worn. Girls Size 2 asking \$10. Call 614-358-4889.

Yokota, Japan - Girls Capezio tap shoes. Tap shoes for young girls in its line up of quality I have 3 pairs Size 12 1/2, 2, and 3 X2 Good conditions. Paid \$23 +S&H Asking for \$10 each or obo Call 614-358-4889

Sporting Goods 980

Yokota, Japan - Taylor Made i7 CGS Max 10.5 SLS Shaft (459) used greatly for about 1/3 of a season. Haven't been able to play because of schedule, so have to sell. Originally bought for \$499 and that's not even including shipping (still have the receipt). Driver has interchangeable weight system for fade or draw bias. Shaft is super light (16g) so those explosive distance comes with it. Head cover and weight set. 10.5 degree stiff shaft selling for \$240 or best offer. Please call Miggly 080-5501-6602

Zama - Kawasaki Angle Grinder 4 1/2" 110V. Brand new. 1/2 position reversible side handle -spindle lock for quick and easy wheel change -sliding switch- for extended run applications -3 year warranty asking \$40 jason home 713-490-0578 cell 080-3251-9808 or email jasonstacieleaf@hotmail.com

Yokota, Japan - Jon & Kate Plus Eight DVD - Seasons 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 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AFRTS Television Schedule

Updated sports listings are available on AFN's Web site at <http://myafn.dodmedia.osd.mil/>

SATURDAY, MAY 16, 2009

	(AFN-ATLANTIC)	(AFN-FAMILY)	(AFN-MOVIE)	(AFN-NEWS)	(AFN-PACIFIC)	(PENTAGON)	(SPECTRUM)	(AFN-SPORTS)	(XTRA)
9:00	CSI: Miami "Death Eminent"	Emperor New	(7:00) The Untouchables	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer	Ent. Studios	Recon Revisited	MythBusters Flying a kite in a thunderstorm.	NBA Basketball Teams to Be Announced.	(8:00) NHL Hockey Teams to Be Announced. (Same-day Tape)
9:30		Phineas and Ferb	(16) Movie "Catch Me if You Can" (2002) Leonardo DiCaprio, Tom Hanks. A teenage scam artist poses as a pilot, surgeon and lawyer.		Cris Angel Mindfreak	State Dept Briefing			Hockey Central
10:00	Oprah Winfrey	Ben 10		Hannity	Engineering an Empire "Napoleon: Steel Monster"	Fit For Duty	Decoding the Past "Mysteries of the Freemasons"	NBA Basketball Teams to Be Announced.	MLB Baseball Boston Red Sox at Seattle Mariners. From Safeco Field in Seattle. (Live)
10:30		Dragonball GT			Anderson Cooper 360	MLB Baseball Cincinnati Reds at San Diego Padres. From PETCO Park in San Diego. (Live)	Week-Pentagon		
11:00	Dr. Phil	Teenage Robot				Special Report With Bret Baier	Bizarre Foods With Andrew Zimmern "Samoa"		
11:30		Kenny the Shark				Campbell Brown: No Bias, No Bull	Fit For Duty		
12:00	CBS Evening News	Teen Kids News	Movie "The Game" (1997) Michael Douglas. A businessman takes part in an unusual form of recreation.			Battleground	Latin Lifestyles		
12:30	ESPN News	Grossology				Around the Services	Urban Style		
13:00	NBC Nightly News	Out There				CAMPBELL BROWN: NO BIAS, NO BULL	FNG Useful benefits.	Designed to Sell	
13:30	World News-Gibson	Lizzie McGuire				Army Newswatch	Army Newswatch	Tyler's Ultimate	
14:00	Connie the Cow	The Crocodile Hunter "Suburban Killers"	(13) Movie "The Abyss" (1989, Science Fiction) Ed Harris, Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio, Michael Biehn. An oil-rig crew must search for a sunken nuclear sub.	Your World With Neil Cavuto	Access Hollywood	AFN Europe Report	Big Daddy's House	SportsCenter	NFL Total Access
14:30	Ribert & Robert's					The Grill Sergeants	Healthy-Ellie Krieger		
15:00	Sonic the Hedgehog	Animal Miracles "Fogg's Ray of Light"	The Rachel Maddow Show	Deadliest Catch "The Clock's Ticking"	Fit For Duty	New Amsterdam "Honor"	SportsCenter	Quick Pitch	
15:30	Danny Phantom			Around the Services	Battleground				
16:00	Naruto	Hercules: The Legendary Journeys	Tavis Smiley	Law & Order "In Vino Veritas"	Ft. Hood on Track	Stargate Atlantis "The Lost Boys"	NBA Basketball Teams to Be Announced.	MTV Hits Playlist	
16:30	Darcy's Wild Life				Week-Pentagon				
17:00	Ent. Studios	SpongeBob SquarePants	Nightly Business Report	Extreme Makeover: Home Edition "Brown Family"	Recon	King of the Hill		Top 20 Countdown	
17:30	Criss Angel Mindfreak	The Fairly OddParents	Nightline	Recon Revisited		That '70s Show			
18:00	Engineering an Empire "Napoleon: Steel Monster"	The Universe Apocalyptic scenarios.	The O'Reilly Factor	World News-Gibson	Army Newswatch	Everybody Loves Raymond		Top 20 Countdown	
18:30				ESPNews	Week-Pentagon	Family vacation in Italy.		Baseball Tonight	
19:00	Access Hollywood	Movie "Madagascar" (2005, Comedy) Voices of Ben Stiller, Chris Rock.	MSNBC Live	The Celebrity Apprentice	The Grill Sergeants	Samantha Who?		ECW	
19:30					Fit For Duty	How I Met Your Mother			
20:00	Deadliest Catch "The Clock's Ticking"	American Idol	Today		Battleground	Terminator: The Sarah Connor Chronicles			
20:30		American Idol			Balad and Beyond				
21:00	Law & Order "In Vino Veritas"				All Hands TV	Supernatural "Jump the Shark"			
21:30					Pacific Report				
22:00	The Celebrity Apprentice	Movie "Clockstoppers" (2002, Comedy) Jesse Bradford, French Stewart.			Headline News	Saturday Night Live			
22:30					American Dad	Today's Air Force			
23:00					Bulls and Bears	"Til Death "Death Sex"			
23:30					Cavuto on Business	Recon			
					The War at Home	Week-Pentagon	Austin City Limits		

SUNDAY, MAY 17, 2009

00:00	(10:00) The Celebrity Apprentice	(05) The Simpsons	(11:55) Movie "Good Morning, Vietnam" (1987, Comedy) Robin Williams. Airmen Adrian Cronauer, DJ in 1965 Saigon.	Forbes on FOX	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Scheherezade"	FNG Useful benefits.	(11:30) Austin City Limits	(11:00) SportsCenter	Top 20 Countdown
00:30		The Universe "The End of the Earth" Apocalyptic scenarios.	Cashin' In	Crashin' In	Fit For Duty	Dog the Bounty Hunter			
1:00			Newsroom	Without a Trace "One Wrong Move"	Around the Services	Around the Services			
1:30					Recon	Wife Swap "Beckman-Heskett/Childs"			
2:00						Boston Legal "Stick It"			
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Military News
Sports
Weather

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SCOREBOARD

Sports on AFN

Sunday

AFN-Atlantic, 2 a.m.-MLB: Milwaukee at St. Louis.
AFN-Sports, 2 a.m.-MLB: Minnesota at N.Y. Yankees.
AFN-Xtra, 2 a.m.-MLB: Houston at Chicago Cubs.
AFN-Atlantic, 5 a.m.-MLB: Cleveland at Tampa Bay.
AFN-Xtra, 5 a.m.-MLB: L.A. Angels at Texas.
AFN-Sports, 5:30 a.m.-Horse racing: 134th Preakness Stakes.
AFN-Atlantic, 8 a.m.-MLB: Arizona at Atlanta.
AFN-Xtra, 8 a.m.-Auto racing: NASCAR Sprint Cup All-Star Challenge.
AFN-Sports, 11 a.m.-MLB: Boston at Seattle.
AFN-Xtra, noon-MLS: D.C. at CD Chivas USA.
AFN-Xtra, 4 p.m.-MLB: Chicago White Sox at Toronto (dld).
AFN-Xtra, 7 p.m.-MLB: N.Y. Mets at San Francisco (dld).
AFN-Sports, 8 p.m.-Horse racing: 134th Preakness Stakes (dld).
AFN-Xtra, 10 p.m.-MLB: Colorado at Pittsburgh (dld).

Monday

AFN-Atlantic, 2 a.m.-MLB: Minnesota at N.Y. Yankees.
AFN-Sports, 2 a.m.-Horse racing: 134th Preakness Stakes (dld).
AFN-Xtra, 4 a.m.-NHL playoffs: Western Conference championship, Chicago at Detroit, Game 1.
AFN-Sports, 4:30 a.m.-NBA playoffs: Western Conference semifinal, Houston at L.A. Lakers, Game 7.
AFN-Atlantic, 5 a.m.-Golf: PGA Texas Open, final round.
AFN-Sports, 9 a.m.-NBA playoffs: Eastern Conference semifinal, Orlando at Boston, Game 7.
AFN-Xtra, 1 p.m.-MLB: Cincinnati at San Diego (dld).
AFN-Sports, 3:30 p.m.-Tennis: ATP Madrid men's singles championship (dld).
AFN-Xtra, 4 p.m.-MLB: N.Y. Mets at San Francisco (dld).
AFN-Sports, 7:30 p.m.-NBA playoffs: Western Conference semifinal, Houston at L.A. Lakers, Game 7 (dld).
AFN-Sports, 10 p.m.-NBA playoffs: Eastern Conference semifinal, Orlando at Boston, Game 7 (dld).
AFN-Xtra, 11 p.m.-Drag racing: NHRA Thunder Valley Nationals (dld).

All times are Japan and Korea Standard; (dld) indicates delayed broadcast. All listings are subject to change. Visit www.myafn.net for more information.

Boxing

Fight schedule

May 22

At Fontainebleau Hotel, Miami Beach, Fla., Richard Gutierrez, Miami, vs. Anthony Smith, Miami, 10, welterweights.

May 23

At Monterrey, Mexico, Toshiaki Nishioka, Japan, vs. Jonny Gonzalez, Mexico, 12, for Nishioka's WBC junior featherweight title; Rafael Marquez, Mexico, vs. Jose Mendoza, Colombia, 10, featherweights.

At Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, Jorge Linares, Japan, vs. Josafat Perez, Mexico, 12, for Linares' WBA junior lightweight title; Jose Guadalupe Martinez, Mexico, vs. Oscar Saturnino, Mexico, 12, for Martinez's Mexican light heavyweight title; Filomeno Jaramillo, Mexico, vs. Victor Terrazas, Mexico, 12, for the interim Mexican super bantamweight title.

May 26

At Shanghai, Daisaku Naito, Japan, vs. Xiong Zhao Hong, China, 12, for Naito's WBC flyweight title.

At TBA, Thailand, Denkaon Kaowichit, Thailand, vs. Hiroyuki Hisataka, Japan, 12, for Kaowichit's WBA flyweight title.

May 30

At Hartwall Arena, Helsinki, Finland, Ruslan Chagaev, Germany, vs. Nikolai Valuev, Russia, 12, for Chagaev's WBA heavyweight title.

At Seminole Hard Rock Hotel and Casino, Hollywood, Fla., Andre Berto, Winter Haven, Fla., vs. Juan Urango, Miami, 12, welterweights; Alfredo Angulo, Coachella, Calif., vs. Kermit Cintron, Reading, Pa., 12, light middleweights.

June 5

At Chicago, Carlos Quintana, Puerto Rico, vs. Danny Perez, San Diego, 12, junior middleweights; Joey Hernandez, Miami, vs. Damian Fries, Miami, 10, welterweights.

June 13

At Madison Square Garden, New York, Miguel Cotto, Puerto Rico, vs. Joshua Clottey, Bronx, N.Y., 12, for Cotto's WBO welterweight title.

June 19

At Montreal, Adrian Diacuon, Canada, vs. Jean Pascal, Canada, 12, for Diacuon's WBC light heavyweight title.

At Laredo(Texas) Entertainment Center, Fernando Beltran Jr. vs. Monty Mezalay, Rankin Pa., 12, for Beltran's Latino featherweight title.

June 20

At London, Wladimir Klitschko, Ukraine, vs. David Haye, Britain, 12, for Klitschko's IBF-WBO-IBO heavyweight title.

Golf

Texas Open

At La Cantera Golf Club, Resort Course
San Antonio
Purse: \$6.1 million
Yardage: 6,881; Par: 70 (35-35)

First Round

Paul Goydos 29-34-63 -7

Justin Leonard 32-31-63 -7

Jeff Maggert 34-30-64 -6

Marc Leishman 32-32-64 -6

Ted Purdy 33-31-64 -6

Brian Davis 32-33-65 -5

Greg Owen 34-31-65 -5

Lee Janzen 32-34-66 -4

David Duval 31-35-66 -4

Stephen Ames 32-34-66 -4

Corey Pavin 34-32-66 -4

Willie Wood 34-32-66 -4

J.J. Henry 34-32-66 -4

Mathias Gronberg 34-32-66 -4

Frederik Jacobson 36-30-66 -4

Dean Wilson 34-33-67 -3

Bob Estes 33-34-67 -3

Tim Clark 34-33-67 -3

John Mallinger 34-33-67 -3

Scott Verplank 34-33-67 -3

Mark Wilson 34-33-67 -3

Shaun Micheel 34-33-67 -3

Bill Haas 38-29-67 -3

Matt Jones 35-32-67 -3

Matt Weirring 34-33-67 -3

Will Collins 34-33-67 -3

James Driscoll 33-34-67 -3

Gregory Woodland 35-32-67 -3

Harrison Frazar 36-32-67 -3

Karen Jones 34-33-67 -3

Kevin Stadler 32-36-68 -2

Tim Herron 33-36-68 -2

Charlottesville 36-32-68 -2

James Nitties 33-35-68 -2

Grant Waite 35-33-68 -2

Notah Begay III 34-34-68 -2

Derek Fathauer 34-34-68 -2

Scott Sterling 33-35-68 -2

Marco Dawson 33-35-68 -2

Patrick Sheehan 35-33-68 -2

Chad Campbell 38-30-68 -2

Zach Johnson 34-34-68 -2

Garrett Willis 33-35-68 -2

Briny Baird 34-34-68 -2

Matt Bettencourt 33-35-68 -2

Tag Ridings 34-35-68 -2

Jay Williamson 35-34-69 -1

Rocco Mediate 35-34-69 -1

Anthony Kim 36-33-69 -1

Rich Beem 33-36-69 -1

Tim Wilkinson 35-34-69 -1

Greg Chalmers 34-35-69 -1

Ryan Palmer 35-34-69 -1

Mark Hensby 34-35-69 -1

Frank Likliter II 35-34-69 -1

Aron Price 35-35-69 -1

Martin Piller 35-35-70 E

Scott McCarron 36-34-70 E

Jesper Parnevik 36-34-70 E

Steve Allan 36-34-70 E

Chez Reavie 33-37-70 E

Greg Kraft 34-36-70 E

Trevor Dodds 35-35-70 E

Nick O'Hearn 36-34-70 E

Nathan Green 34-36-70 E

Jason Gore 38-32-70 E

Jay Delsing 33-37-70 E

Bryce Molder 35-35-70 E

Kris Blanks 36-34-70 E

Peter Tomasulo 35-35-70 E

Vaughn Taylor 35-35-70 E

Bart Bryant 35-35-70 E

Charles Warren 33-37-70 E

Charley Hoffman 34-36-70 E

Bob Burns 35-35-70 E

Paul Stankowski 35-35-70 E

Brandt Jobe 37-33-70 E

Todd Fischer 35-35-70 E

Guy Borus 34-36-70 E

Robin Freeman 34-36-70 E

Jimmy Walker 33-37-70 E

Colt Knost 35-35-70 E

Sybase Classic

Thursday
At Upper Montclair Country Club
Clifton, N.J.

Purse: \$2 million

Yardage: 6,413; Par: 72 (36-36)

First Round

Helen Alfredsson 32-30-62-10

Brittany Lincicome 32-32-64-8

Suzanne Petersen 30-35-65-7

Ji Young Oh 31-35-66-6

Hee Young Park 32-35-67-5

Katherine Hull 32-36-67-5

In-Kyung Kim 32-35-68-4

Brittany Lang 32-36-68-4

Jeffrey Lang 34-35-69-3

Jiayi Shin 33-36-69-3

Hye Jung Choi 35-34-69-3

Marcy Hart 35-34-69-3

Irish Open

Friday
At County Louth Golf Club
Baltray, Ireland

Purse: \$4.09 million

Yardage: 7,063; Par: 72

Second Round

(a-amateur)

a-Shane Lowry, Ireland 67-62-129

Robert Rock, England 66-65-131

Jamie Donaldson, Wales 66-65-131

Paul Lawrie, Scotland 66-66-132

Nick Dougherty, England 66-67-133

Thomas Levet, France 67-66-133

Roopa Kakko, Finland 66-67-133

Johan Edfors, Sweden 64-70-134

Soren Kjeldsen, Denmark 67-67-134

Oliver Wilson, England 66-68-134

Lee Westwood, England 68-66-134

Gary Orr, Scotland 68-67-135

Alastair Forsyth, Scotland 67-68-135

Andrew McLarty, South Africa 69-66-135

Pablo Martin, Spain 70-65-135

Colin Montgomerie, Scotland 70-65-135

José Manuel Lara, Spain 67-68-135

Wil Besseling, Netherlands 69-66-135

Tennis

Madrid Open

Friday

At Caja Magica

Madrid

Purse: \$6.1 million

Yardage: 7,020; Par: 70 (35-35)

First Round

Paul Goydos 29-34-63 -7

Justin Leonard 32-31-63 -7

Jeff Maggert 34-30-64 -6

Marc Leishman 32-32-64 -6

Ted Purdy 33-31-64 -6

Brian Davis 32-33-65 -5

Greg Owen 34-31-65 -5

Lee Janzen 32-34-66 -4

David Duval 31-35-66 -4

Stephen Ames 32-34-66 -4

Corey Pavin 34-32-66 -4

Willie Wood 34-32-66 -4

J.J. Henry 34-32-66 -4

Mathias Gronberg 34-32-66 -4

Frederik Jacobson 36-30-66 -4

Dean Wilson 34-33-67 -3

Bob Estes 33-34-67 -3

Tim Clark 34-33-67 -3

John Mallinger 34-33-67 -3

Scott Verplank 34-33-67 -3

Mark Wilson 34-33-67 -3

Shaun Micheel 34-33-67 -3

Quentin Ogden 34-33-67 -3

Kevin Stadler 32-36-68 -2

Charlottesville 33-35-68 -2

James Nitties 33-35-68 -2

Grant Waite 33-35-68 -2

Notah Begay III 34-34-68 -2

Derek Fathauer 34-34-68 -2

Jeff Maggert 34-34-68 -2

Scott Sterling 34-34-68 -2

James Driscoll 34-34-68 -2

James Nitties 34-34-68 -2

James Driscoll 34-34-68 -2

James Nitties 34-34-68 -2

James Driscoll 34-34-68 -2

Mavericks could have a busy offseason

Cuban's checkbook, willingness to spend give Dallas chance to make improvements

BY JAIME ARON
The Associated Press

DALLAS — Jason Kidd has to decide where he'll play next. Dirk Nowitzki has to deal with a girlfriend in jail. Josh Howard has to get ready for ankle surgery.

So much for the Dallas Mavericks savoring their longest playoff run in three years.

The end of an intense, exciting, second-round series against the Denver Nuggets means the players must start dealing with serious issues they put on hold while there were better things to do, and it means the front office better start getting to work on improving the team for next season.

Kidd is the top priority; not only does the club want him to stay, there would be a void at point guard if he goes. He told his bosses Thursday he's enjoyed being here and told reporters, "I would love to be back." Still, he's a free agent, which means he can shop around.

At 36 and without a championship, he might want to join Kobe Bryant with the Los Angeles Lakers or LeBron James in Cleveland, just to name two guys who've talked about wanting him as a teammate. The question then becomes how much those teams are willing to pay. Ultimately, Kidd might wait to see which contending team offers the best combination of dollars and years.

"There are no guarantees. You could pick the favorites for next year to win a championship and things could go sideways," he said. "Whether it's here in Dallas or wherever it may be, I still feel that I have a lot to give to the game. I feel great, and I thought I had a pretty good season. As much as everybody talks about my age, I still feel like I can compete at a high level."

Perhaps the biggest thing the Mavericks have going for them this offseason — in the Kidd bidding and otherwise — is owner Mark Cuban's passion, and his checkbook.

At a time when other teams are looking to cut payroll, Cuban has been saying for months that he would take on big contracts as long as he gets his money's worth.

"If an opportunity presents itself as a result of the market going a certain direction, I think it's safe to say Mark will take full advantage," said Donnie Nelson, the team's president of basketball operations.

Because the Mavericks are over the salary cap, any big changes must come through trades. They could offer the expiring contract of center Erick Dampier, Jerry Stackhouse and his \$2 million buyout on a \$7 million deal or maybe even Howard, a versatile former All-Star who also is going into the final year of his contract.

Howard had a lot to prove this season after a series of off-court troubles. He played well when healthy and was good late in the season and in the playoffs despite a left ankle that likely needs arthroscopic surgery "to clean out

all the junk." He's visiting a specialist in New York next week.

Dallas' best-case scenario is for Kidd and Howard to remain alongside Nowitzki, then for other moves to bring help at shooting guard and center. The club would like to get more scoring from those two spots, but also is looking to improve on defense.

Then again, as coach Rick Carlisle said Thursday, "Every team is looking for athleticism, shooting and size, to get more dynamic in general."

In their first season under Carl-

isle, the Mavericks started slowly (2-7) but finished strong, winning 50 games, then knocking out the San Antonio Spurs in the first round. After losing the first two games against Denver, they had a controversial loss in Game 3, won Game 4 and then were outclassed again in Game 5 on Wednesday night.

"Denver was just a way better team with way more weapons," Nowitzki said.

Nowitzki just finished his 11th season and ninth straight on an all-NBA team. To him, every sea-

son that doesn't end with a championship is "another opportunity that kind of slipped away from me."

Figuring that he'll only be an elite player for three or more seasons, he really wants to see the talent around him upgraded.

"You have to have Kidd back, keep some of the core guys and just add pieces," Nowitzki said. "That's what it always comes down to, just adding players who can play. I think it really showed in the second round that we need some athleticism as well. Denver

was just stronger and faster, it felt like, at every position. ... We'll see what happens this summer."

Among the things Nowitzki must deal with is the continuing saga of Cristal Taylor, who was arrested at his house last week and faces a variety of charges, including a probation violation from Missouri that is keeping her in custody without bond.

"I'm OK," he said. "It's been a tough two weeks. That's really all I can say about it."



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PHELAN M. EBENHACK/AP

Boston's Stephon Marbury, right, and Orlando's Hedo Turkoglu have some choice words for each other during the second half of Thursday night's playoff game. At left, Orlando's Dwight Howard and Courtney Lee try to keep the peace.

Magic: Celtics manage only 3-for-18 on treys

MAGIC, FROM BACK PAGE

and play the game."

The Celtics are 32-0 in seven-game series when they have held a 3-2 lead, and they are 17-3 in Game 7s on their home floor heading into Sunday's game.

"You can't lean on a Game 7 being at home," Boston coach Doc Rivers said. "You have to go play. Just because you're in Boston doesn't mean you're going to win the game."

Magic coach Stan Van Gundy doesn't believe in most records. He even threw out something familiar to Boston fans: The Red Sox's historic comeback from a 3-0 deficit to win the AL championship series over the Yankees in 2004.

"I don't think it means anything," he said. "In other words, I know it was a different sport, but when it was Yankees-Red Sox, nobody had ever come back from 3-0 before."

Rajon Rondo finished with 19 points, 16 rebounds and six assists, and Pierce scored 17 for the Celtics, who led by 10 points in the second half before falling apart.

The two days off before Game 7 should give an older, worn out Boston team a chance to rest its tired legs. It's still not enough for Rivers.

"I would take a week off and do it like the Super Bowl," Rivers said. "That would be terrific. But that's not going to happen."

Boston had its chances.

The Celtics held the Magic scoreless for more than five minutes to start the third quarter, building a 10-point lead on a jumper by Glen "Big Baby" Davis.

But Howard led the Magic back, with a backspin alley-oop from Turkoglu that highlighted a spurt to end the third quarter. Orlando took its first lead with 8:38 remaining in the fourth.

Pierce hit three consecutive jumpers to give Boston a 73-72 lead with about four minutes to play, but the Celtics were done in by their 3-for-18 shooting from three-point range and 19 turnovers. Ray Allen missed all seven attempts from behind the arc.

"The offense definitely struggled," Pierce said. "But we still played enough defense to win the game. We turned the ball over too much."

Howard blamed Van Gundy for not getting the ball more after the Magic's Game 5 collapse, when they blew a 14-point lead in the fourth quarter.

"You've got a dominant player, let him be dominant," Howard said.

He came out trying to back up his strong words, scoring the first eight points of the game for the Magic, including a pair of dunks that pumped life into the home crowd. He finished 9-for-16 shooting.

Orlando's do-it-all center said he thought little of his comments before Game 6.

"Coach said, 'Give all you got tonight, because we're going to have tomorrow off,'" Howard said. "I was thinking about that."

Van Gundy said he didn't change his strategy, and compared Howard's comments to an argument between himself and his wife.

"When she gets on me for something, my first reaction is to blame someone else," Van Gundy said. "To make an excuse. To do something else, because I don't like being criticized. And I think when Dwight gets into a game, his first thing is, 'I don't want the blame.' This is just my guess."

"But when you step back and look at it, I usually realize the person who's been on me has a point. And then it's time to step up and do the job."

NBA scoreboard

Playoffs

FIRST ROUND
(Best-of-seven)
EASTERN CONFERENCE
Cleveland 4, Detroit 0
Cleveland 102, Detroit 84
Cleveland 94, Detroit 82
Cleveland 73, Detroit 68
Cleveland 93, Detroit 78
Boston 3, Chicago 3
Chicago 105, Boston 103, OT
Boston 118, Chicago 115
Boston 107, Chicago 86
Chicago 121, Boston 118, 20T
Boston 106, Chicago 104, OT
Chicago 128, Boston 127, 3OT
Boston 109, Chicago 93

Orlando 4, Philadelphia 2

Philadelphia 100, Orlando 98
Orlando 96, Philadelphia 87
Philadelphia 96, Orlando 94
Orlando 84, Philadelphia 81
Orlando 91, Philadelphia 78
Orlando 114, Philadelphia 89

Atlanta 4, Miami 3

Atlanta 90, Miami 64
Miami 108, Atlanta 93
Miami 107, Atlanta 78
Atlanta 81, Miami 71
Atlanta 106, Miami 91
Miami 98, Atlanta 72
Atlanta 91, Miami 78

WESTERN CONFERENCE

L.A. Lakers 4, Utah 1
L.A. Lakers 113, Utah 100
L.A. Lakers 119, Utah 109
Utah 88, L.A. Lakers 86
L.A. Lakers 108, Utah 94
L.A. Lakers 107, Utah 96

Denver 4, New Orleans 1

Denver 113, New Orleans 84
Denver 108, New Orleans 93
New Orleans 95, Denver 93
Denver 121, New Orleans 63
Denver 97, New Orleans 86

Dallas 1, San Antonio 1

Dallas 105, San Antonio 97
San Antonio 105, Dallas 94
Dallas 88, San Antonio 67
Dallas 99, San Antonio 90
Dallas 106, San Antonio 93

Houston 4, Portland 2

Houston 108, Portland 81
Portland 107, Houston 103
Houston 86, Portland 83
Houston 89, Portland 88
Portland 88, Houston 77
Houston 92, Portland 76

CONFERENCE SEMIFINALS

(Best-of-seven)
Eastern Conference

Cleveland 4, Atlanta 0

Cleveland 99, Atlanta 72
Cleveland 105, Atlanta 85
Cleveland 97, Atlanta 82
Cleveland 84, Atlanta 74

Boston vs. Orlando

Orlando 95, Boston 90
Boston 112, Orlando 94
Orlando 117, Boston 96
Boston 95, Orlando 94
Boston 92, Orlando 88

Thursday: Orlando 83, Boston 75, series tied 3-3

Sunday: Orlando at Boston

Western Conference

L.A. Lakers vs. Houston
Houston 100, L.A. Lakers 92
L.A. Lakers 111, Houston 98
L.A. Lakers 108, Houston 94
Houston 99, L.A. Lakers 87
L.A. Lakers 118, Houston 78

Thursday: Houston 95, L.A. Lakers 80, series tied 3-3

Sunday: Houston at L.A. Lakers

Denver 4, Dallas 1

Denver 109, Dallas 95
Denver 117, Dallas 105
Denver 106, Dallas 105
Dallas 119, Denver 117
Denver 124, Dallas 110

Thursday: Houston 95, L.A. Lakers 80, series tied 3-3

Sunday: Houston at L.A. Lakers

Denver 4, Dallas 1

Denver 109, Dallas 95
Denver 117, Dallas 105
Denver 106, Dallas 105
Dallas 119, Denver 117
Denver 124, Dallas 110

Thursday: Houston 95, L.A. Lakers 80, series tied 3-3

Sunday: Houston at L.A. Lakers

Thursday: Magic 83, Celtics 75

BOSTON — Pierce 6-14 5-8 17, Davis 3-8

0-0, Perkins 7-11 1-1 15, Rondo 8-19 1-3
9-11, Allen 2-11 1-1 5, Scalabrine 3-7 0-7,
House 6-6 0-0 6, Marbury 0-0 0-0. Totals

32-77 8-13 75

ORLANDO — Turkoglu 13-3 0-0 7, Lewis

7-18 6-8 20, Howard 9-16 5-12 23, Alston 4-9 1-1 11, Redick 0-7 2-3 2, Pietrus 4-8 1-2
11, Lee 2-5 2-2 6, Battie 0-1 0-0 0, Johnson
1-5 0-2 3, Gortat 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 30-82 17-
31 83

Boston 25 21 16 13-75

Orlando 22 23 16 22-83

Three-Point Goals: — Boston 3-18 (Ron-

do 2-5, Scalabrine 1-4, Pierce 0-3, R. Allen 0-7), Orlando 2-26 (Alston 2-4, Pietrus 2-6,

Johnson 1-4, Turkoglu 1-5, Lee 0-1, Redick

0-2, Lewis 0-4). **Fouled Out:** — None. **Re-**

bounds: — Boston 59 (Rondo 16), Orlando

57 (Howard 22). **Assists:** — Boston 18 (Ron-

do 6), Orlando 13 (Lewis, Alston, Turkoglu 3). **Total Fouls:** — Boston 28, Orlando 15. **Technicals:** — Marbury, Perkins, Howard, Turkoglu. A-17,461 (17,461).

Rockets 95, Lakers 80

L.A. LAKERS — Ariza 2-6 2-2 7, Gasol

7-15 0-0 14, Bynum 0-3 0-0 0, Fisher 1-7

2-2, Bryant 11-27 9-10 32, Odom 3-5 2-5

4-8, Walton 0-5 0-0 0, Farman 5-10 0-0 13,

Brown 0-3 2-2 2, Vujacic 1-3 0-0 2. Totals

30-84 15-20 80

HOUSTON — Battier 2-8 0-0 5, Scola

10-17 4-5 24, Hayes 1-1 0-0 2, Brooks 8-13

26, Artest 6-17 0-2 14, Lowry 1-6 2-2 4,

Landry 6-6 3-6 15, Wafer 2-3 0-0 5. Totals

36-71 16-22 95

L.A. Lakers 15 21 29 15-80

Houston 27 25 22 21-95

Three-Point Goals: — L.A. 15, Housto

n 12, Ariza 1-5, Bynum 1-5, Brown 0-1, Wal-

ton 0-2, Fisher 0-5, Houston 7-18

(Brooks 3-4, Artest 2-7, Wafer 1-1, Battier

1-2). **Fouled Out:** — Odom, Rebounds — L.A.

Lakers 54 (Odom 14), Houston 46 (Scola 2)

3), Assists — L.A. Lakers 11 (Bryant 3),

Houston 19 (Brooks), Battier, Lowry 4. **Total Fouls:** — L.A. Lakers 23, Houston 19. **Technicals:** — Bryant, A-18,501 (18,043).



PAT SULLIVAN/AP

Los Angeles' Luke Walton does his best to stop Houston's Ron Artest during the first half of Thursday night's playoff game. In the second half, Los Angeles' Kobe Bryant, his frustration boiling over, appeared to shove Artest and was called for a technical foul.

Rockets: 'They fight for everything they get'

ROCKETS, FROM BACK PAGE

the third time in the past 18 games when it had a chance to close a series.

The Lakers have one more opportunity to oust Houston, but they probably didn't expect to need it, three games after Yao Ming suffered a broken left foot.

"They all have the same mentality, they all fight for everything that they get," Bryant said of the Rockets. "That's why we're in the position that we're in right now. They don't quit. So Game 7 is going to be exciting."

The winner will play the Denver Nuggets, who ousted Dallas on Wednesday night and have a few days to rest.

Like Bryant, Los Angeles coach Phil Jackson tried to put a positive spin on his team's situation. "There's nothing to worry about," he said. "We are just going to go out and play. It's our home court and it's what we play for. We play a different game on our court, and that's pretty obvious to see."

Los Angeles won Game 5 by 40 points, matching Houston's worst playoff loss, but the Rockets came out dominant instead of demoralized on Thursday. They put together a near carbon copy of the first half of Game 4, in which they seemed to hit every open shot, smothered the Lakers on defense and built an 18-point halftime lead.

"We really came out with a great deal of aggression," said Shane Battier, who played 42 minutes, despite an illness. "We were just focused. We took care of the ball, we swung the ball and we played the way we know we can play."

Battier missed a half-court shot at the halftime buzzer and angrily shook his head as he stormed off the court. The Rockets led 52-36 at the break — one basket shy of the halftime score in Game 4.

"We just didn't start the game

off the way we should have," Bryant said. "We didn't execute right. They jumped on top of us."

On Sunday, Houston stretched its lead to 29 and cruised to a 99-87 triumph. This time, the Lakers made a game of it, opening the second half with a 16-2 spurt.

But Landry converted a three-point play to break the Lakers' momentum and Brooks sank a three-pointer to help Houston rebuild its lead.

The Rockets hit their last eight shots in the third quarter and took a 75-65 lead to the fourth. Landry drove down the lane for a one-handed dunk with 6:56 left to put Houston up 81-71, and Bryant checked in after a long rest.

But Bryant missed four of his next six shots and Brooks scored eight points over the next five minutes to secure another surprise victory over the Western Conference's top seed. "I think it's fun," Brooks said. "We enjoy it. We got them on their heels a little bit. The pressure's on them."

The Rockets scored 40 points in the paint and held Los Angeles to 36 percent shooting (30-for-84). The Lakers were only 5-for-23 from three-point range. Houston opened the game with a 17-1 burst, electrifying another red-clad capacity crowd at the Toyota Center.

Bryant made the Lakers' first field goal about 6 minutes into the quarter, but Scola put in another short jumper to make it 19-3 — one point better than Houston's opening run in Game 4.

Houston stayed in control and Bryant's frustration boiled with about 2 minutes to play. With Ron Artest blanketing him near mid-court, Bryant appeared to shove Artest and was called for a technical foul. The temperamental Artest, ejected from Games 2 and 3, ran away to avoid a confrontation, and Brooks sank the free throw for a 47-31 lead.

Kinnick, Kubasaki come up short in Kanto baseball

Stars and Stripes

CAMP ZAMA, Japan — A failed squeeze bunt and steal of home broke the heart of one team, while a walk-off RBI single broke the heart of the other.

It was a day of near-misses by Nile C. Kinnick and Kubasaki, which on Friday came up just short in their bid to reach Saturday's championship game in the Kanto Invitational Baseball Tournament.

"You live and die by the risk," coach Michael Valenzuela said after his Red Devils rallied for

four runs each in the sixth and seventh innings, but failed to execute the bunt and steal in a 9-8 semifinal loss to American School In Japan.

Andrew Hurst was at third with one out and Francisco Quiacho at bat. First, they tried a squeeze but Quiacho missed the bunt. "He usually comes through with those," Valenzuela said.

Then Hurst was out trying to swipe home plate. "We tried the squeeze, and when that didn't work, I just tried to gamble," Valenzuela said.

It could have been far worse, Kubasaki coach Randy Toor said. "We got ourselves in some situa-

tions, bases loaded with no outs twice, and we got out of it," he said, praising starting pitcher P.J. Varner. "He did a good job."

Earlier, Kinnick and Kubasaki enjoyed quarterfinal success in the first interarea games played in this tournament since 2002.

DODDS-Korea champion Seoul American's welcome to the tournament was a rough one — Kinnick's Eddy Davis one-hit the Falcons and struck out 14.

"Eddy was on today," Valenzuela said. "He had control of every pitch he threw. That's as

good stuff as he's had all year."

Kubasaki's introduction to the tournament saw the Dragons lead Yokota 11-2 entering the sixth inning. The Panthers scored seven runs in the seventh, but it was too little, too late.

"We were definitely happy to be playing somebody besides Kadena," Toor said.

The eight-team tournament concludes with Saturday's title game pitting St. Mary's and ASIJ at 4 p.m. Kinnick and Kubasaki played the third-place game at 1:30 p.m. at Zama's Rambler Field.



Zama American second baseman Michael Graham steps on the bag to erase American School In Japan baserunner Soshi Kumamoto during Friday's quarterfinal game in the Kanto Plain Invitational Baseball Tournament at Rambler Field, Camp Zama, Japan. ASIJ beat the host Trojans 7-2.

RICHARD L. RODGERS/
Special to Stars and Stripes

USFJ-AFL

OFL vet Molloy having blast as Foster receiver

Stars and Stripes

KADENA AIR BASE, Okinawa — One of two holdovers from the Okinawa Football League is enjoying a renaissance as a receiver for the Foster Bulldogs of the U.S. Forces Japan-American Football League.

Jonathan Molloy caught his second touchdown pass in two games, a 63-yard first-quarter catch-and-run pass from Frank Bryant, that paced the Bulldogs past defending champion Misawa 9-6 on Friday at Kadena's McDonald Stadium.

Coach Auburn Edwards calls Molloy an "invaluable leader on and off the field. He, Bryant and

(Tim) Craig have been holding us down, keeping us together and on the same page."

The touchdown and extra point were all the points the Bulldogs needed. Foster got a second-quarter safety when a shotgun snap by the Jets sailed out of the end zone.

Defense ruled the night for the Bulldogs, who intercepted three Jets passes and recorded six sacks, giving the team 13 for the season. Michael Redd had three sacks; he leads the league with seven.

The Jets cut the deficit to three points in the third quarter when Darone Frierson (12-for-18, 275

yards) hit Justin Jordan from 35 yards out. Misawa got close to the Foster end zone in the last four minutes, but couldn't cash in.

On the heels of last week's 45-14 romp over Torii, the Bulldogs seized first place in the USFJ-AFL Southern Division and own the USFJ-AFL's best record at 2-0. The Jets fell to 1-1, a half-game behind the Yokosuka Seahawks (1-0).

Despite the defeat, Jets coach Jeremy Sanders said he was satisfied with his team's effort.

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Class A soccer tournament previews

Samurai girls are ready to cut to the title chase

BY DAVE ORNAUER

Stars and Stripes

Regular seasons have been a total joy since Matthew C. Perry's girls soccer team enjoyed its coming out in 2007.

But the way Far East Class A Tournaments have gone for the Samurai, even their home Penny Lake Field became a house of horrors:

■ A 2-1 "Golden Goal" overtime loss to Daegu American in the 2007 tournament championship match.

■ A surprising first-round exit at the hands of eventual tournament champion Faith Academy last May.

Can this finally be the year the Samurai break through?

"The Samurai are knowing the third time is the charm," coach Chris Anderson said after Perry completed the best regular season in school history (16-6-1) with a school-record 88 goals and 43 assists.

The Samurai are led by a core group featuring newcomer Danielle Dobson (28 goals, 17 assists) and veterans Karla Stroud (Pacific-best 37 goals), Heather Hyson (7, 8) and goalkeeper Kate "Berlin" Cutshall.

What Anderson says he likes best about the group is its versatility and ability to adjust.

"We've been moving people around, trying people at different positions. It's great, how versatile they've been," he said.

Perry's girls hit the Class A pitch for the first time on the road since 2004 in Pusan, South Korea. Daegu hosts the girls tournament, and Perry hosts the Boys Class A tournament for the third consecutive year.

With Faith having opted to play at the Class AA level, the four-day girls tournament begins Monday without a defending champion, leaving it among host Daegu, Perry and former four-time champion Osan American to duke it out along with Taiwan's Morrison Christian Academy.

Anderson considers Osan, with longtime coach Sung Plourde, the favorite.

"He gets those girls very disciplined. They know their jobs. That's the difference. Most schools play kick and hope. Osan and Sung, they pass, they make plays, they do the right things."

For their part, the Cougars worry that the Advanced Placement testing-mandated three-week break between the regular season and tournament might cause plenty of rust.

"It hurts, those three weeks when not competing," said longtime Osan assistant George Gluzinski.

Although Korean-American Interscholastic Activities Conference teams had three weeks off, DODDS-Japan schools such as Robert D. Edgren and Perry had two and one. "Even one week, it



RICHARD L. RODGERS/Special to Stars and Stripes

Matthew C. Perry junior midfielder Heather Hyson, left, and Zama American junior midfielder Taylor Russell battle for the ball in March during a DODDS-Japan Soccer League girls match at Sagamihara Housing Area, Japan. Perry scored three goals in the first 10 minutes, but Zama clawed back to win 4-3.

doesn't matter," Gluzinski said.

It's a matter, he said, of which team gets its game back and hoping it's yours.

"It's going to be a crap shoot," he said.

On the boys' side, many rate defending champion Yongsan International-Seoul (16-2-1, second in KAIAC) as the team to beat.

"You have to play tight defense

and not give up silly goals," Perry boys coach Mark Lange said.

"If they go up, you're done. You have to get bodies behind the ball, and you have to be opportunistic with scoring chances."

Does that mean the Guardians are unbeatable at Class A?

"Even the giants fall sometimes, too," Lange said.

E-mail Dave Ornauer at orny@pstripes.osd.mil

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Far East soccer tournament capsules

Jasmine Pressley, right, of Osan American and Seoul Foreign's Natalie Stallings meet at the ball in April during the final of the Korean-American Interscholastic Activities Conference Division I soccer tournament. Seoul Foreign won 3-1.

GARY CASHMAN/Special to Stars and Stripes



Boys Class A

Dates—May 18-21.

Host—Matthew C. Perry High School, Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan.

Site—Penny Lake Fields 1 and 2, Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan.

Participating teams—Group A, E.J. King Cobras (2007 champions), Sasebo Naval Base, Japan; Robert D. Edgren Eagles, Misawa Air Base, Japan; Korea Kent Foreign Scorpions, Seoul; Korea International Phoenix, Pangyo, South Korea; Osan American Cougars, (2008 champions), Osan Air Base, South Korea. Group B, Matthew C. Perry Samurai, Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan; Nagoya International Dolphins, Nagoya, Japan; Yongsan International-L-Seoul Guardians (2005 and 2008 champions), Seoul; Daegu American Warriors, Camp George, South Korea; Global Vision Christian White Tigers, South Korea.

Returning All-Far East players—Benjamin Bealieu (two-time selection), Phillip Cox, Daegu American; David Kim (2007 selection), Yongsan International-Seoul; Jon-Jon Green, E.J. King; Derek Becker, Osan American; Tom Chae, Korea International; Brandon Massie (Class AA), Robert D. Edgren.

Format—Single round-robin, two pools, five teams in each pool. Victories worth three points, ties worth one, losses worth none, goals worth one point each up to a maximum of three per team per match. All teams qualify for double-elimination playoffs. All matches 30-minute halves, five-minute intermission. Mercy rule applies, matches ending when a team leads by eight goals, regardless of time left. Ties settled by two five-minute overtime periods, no "golden goal," with two-minute intermission, followed by penalty-kick shootout, if necessary.

Schedule—Opening ceremony at 7 a.m. Monday at Matthew C. Perry High School Gym. First pool-play matches at 8 a.m. Monday. Last pool-play matches at 2 p.m. Tuesday. First double-elimination matches at 8 a.m. Wednesday. Championship match at 2 p.m. Thursday, with second "if necessary" match at 3:30 p.m. All-star game at 5 p.m., followed by awards ceremony and barbecue.

Awards—MVPs, best goalkeeper and 15-player All-Tournament team.

Girls Class A

Dates—May 18-21, 2009.

Host—Daegu American School, Camp George, South Korea.

Sites—Kelly Field, Camp Walker; Soldiers Field, Camp Carroll; and Victory Field, Camp Henry, South Korea.

Participating teams—Group A, Osan American Cougars (2002, 2003, 2005 and 2006 champions), Osan Air Base, South Korea; Morrison Christian Academy Mustangs, Taichung, Taiwan; Robert D. Edgren Eagles, Misawa Air Base, Japan; Korea International Phoenix, Pangyo, South Korea; Global Vision Christian White Tigers, South Korea.

Group B, Daegu American Warriors (2007 selection), Camp George, South Korea; Matthew C. Perry Samurai, Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan; Yongsan International-L-Seoul Guardians (2005 and 2008 champions), Seoul; Daegu American Warriors, Camp George, South Korea; Global Vision Christian White Tigers, South Korea.

Returning All-Far East players—Benjamin Bealieu (two-time selection), Phillip Cox, Daegu American; David Kim (2007 selection), Yongsan International-Seoul; Jon-Jon Green, E.J. King; Derek Becker, Osan American; Tom Chae, Korea International; Brandon Massie (Class AA), Robert D. Edgren.

Format—Single round-robin, nine teams split into one pool of five and one pool of four, 20-minute halves, 5-minute halftime. Victories worth three points, ties worth one, losses worth none. Mercy rule applies, matches ending when a team leads by eight goals, regardless of time left. All teams qualify for double-elimination playoffs with modified consolation, 40-minute halves with 10-minute halftime; two five-minute sudden-death "golden goal" overtimes and penalty-kick shootout follow in case of a tie after regulation time. Second "if necessary" championship game played with 30-minute halves and 10-minute halftime; overtime and PK rules remain the same.

Schedule—Pool-play matches begin at 9 a.m. Monday; last pool-play match ends at 7 p.m. Double-elimination playoffs start at 7:30 a.m. Tuesday. Championship match at 1:30 p.m. Thursday, with second "if necessary" match at 4:30 p.m. Closing ceremony at 6 or 7 p.m. All-Star game at 4:30 p.m.

Awards—MVPs, best goalkeeper and 15-player All-Tournament team.

Team capsules

(DODDS and international notables)
Yongsan International-Seoul—16-2-1, second in Korean-American Interscholastic Activities Conference. Coach—Nilton Resende, John Peters. Top players—David Kim (19 goals, 12 assists); Jonathan Park (14 goals); Eduardo Mateos, Joseph Shin (8 goals each). **Outlook**—Defending champ Guardians primed for repeat run.

Osan American—5-11-3, sixth in KAIAC. Coach—Duke Allen. Top players—Derek Becker (17 goals, 11 assists); Eugene So (7 goals). **Outlook**—Should be another middle-of-the-pack finish for Cougars.

E.J. King—8-8-1, fifth-best record in Japan. Coach—Steven Casner. Top players—Jon-Jon Green (13 goals); Ronnie Cardona (8 goals, 6 assists). **Outlook**—Stronger offensively even than 2007 title team, but thanks to Guardians, road might be too tough.

Matthew C. Perry—8-15-3, sixth-best record in Japan. Coach—Mark Lange. Top players—Sean Barker (13 goals, 7 assists); Andre Bugawan (12 goals). **Outlook**—Samurai showed signs of life, winning three of last four in regular season.

Robert D. Edgren—3-11-1, seventh-best record in Japan. Coach—Steve DeLuna, Justin Edmonds. Top players—Brandon Massie (18 goals), Matt Linder (6 goals). **Outlook**—Massie can be dangerous, but like the Cobras, road might be too tough.

Yongsan American—16-1-0, eighth in KAIAC. Coach—Larry Krieger. Top players—Evan Lobebo (4 goals), Sam No (3 goals). **Outlook**—Should be good learning experience for young Warriors.

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NL roundup

Runnin' Mets put their best feet forward

The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — David Wright felt the circumstances were perfect for adding some finesse to New York's power game.

Wright recorded four of the Mets' franchise-record seven stolen bases and hit a tiebreaking RBI single in the ninth inning in a 7-4 victory over the San Francisco Giants on Thursday night.

"We have to pick up the slack with the guys that are in the line-up when the everyday guys are out," Wright said. "If it means you have to steal a few extra bases, play solid defense, or bearing down and being a situational style of hitter, so be it."

Wright had three hits and drove in two runs.

"Jerry (Manuel) has preached aggressiveness on the basepaths all year," Wright said of his manager. "I got a few opportunities early. I like putting pressure on the defense, and I like to keep the pitcher on his toes to make him focus on the baserunners."

Gary Sheffield and Carlos Beltran each had two hits and Ramon Castro had two RBIs for New York, which has won nine of 11.

Sheffield, Beltran and Alex Cora also stole a base for the Mets, who ran wild without speedy shortstop Jose Reyes, who sat out with a stiff right calf.

"Sometimes you're going to have to steal bases to win games," Beltran said. "I'm trying to pick up the spot and David got the big hit."

Wright tied a club mark for steals in a game set twice by Vince Coleman and equaled by Roger Cedeno in 1999. The team had previously swiped six bags in four games, the last time on Sept. 15, 2007, against Philadelphia.

New York also was without reliever J.J. Putz and first baseman Carlos Delgado. Putz had a cortisone shot to alleviate inflammation in his right elbow, and Delgado's ailing hip again kept him out of the lineup.

Bobby Parnell (2-0), subbing for Putz in the eighth, gave up

run-scoring hits to Jose Uribe and Edgar Renteria, leaving the score tied 4-4.

The Mets responded with three runs in the ninth. Beltran hit a one-out double off Brian Wilson (2-1) and stole third. After Sheffield walked, Wright lined a run-scoring single to right.

Cubs 11, Padres 3: At Chicago, Bobby Scales hit a pair of two-run doubles and the Cubs took advantage of 10 walks.

Adrian Gonzalez homered for the fourth consecutive game but couldn't prevent San Diego's 11th straight road loss, the club's longest such skid in 38 years.

Ryan Dempster (3-2) allowed two runs and three hits in seven innings, and also drove in two runs with a double and a single.

Astros 5, Rockies 3: At Denver, Wandy Rodriguez struck out a career-high 11 and Michael Bourn stole home on the back end of a double steal to lead Houston.

Bourn tied a career high with four hits and finished with two stolen bases. Carlos Lee homered for the Astros.

Rodriguez (4-2) allowed two earned runs in seven innings, raising his ERA to 1.90 — still among the lowest in the majors. Chris Sampson worked a perfect eighth and LaTroy Hawkins got his fifth save.

The Rockies committed three errors behind starter Jason Hammel (0-2), who gave up four runs, only one of which was earned, in 5 1/3 innings.

Cardinals 5, Pirates 1: At Pittsburgh, Colby Rasmus hit a two-run homer as the Cardinals avoided a sweep by the last-place Pirates. The Cardinals had lost five consecutive games in Pittsburgh and were in jeopardy of being swept in a three-game series for the first time since Pittsburgh turned the trick last September.

Injury-depleted St. Louis had lost four of five and seven of 10.

Trever Miller (1-0) escaped a bases-loaded jam in the fifth to earn the victory.



LEO SHANE III/Stars and Stripes

President Obama welcomes the World Series champion Philadelphia Phillies to the White House on Friday.



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Big Papi's struggles at plate continue

The Associated Press

ANAHEIM, Calif. — Jeff Mathis and Torii Hunter came through for the Los Angeles Angels. The Boston Red Sox keep waiting for David Ortiz to do the same.

Mathis hit an RBI single in the 12th inning and Hunter had a two-run double and an RBI triple as the Angels beat the Red Sox 5-4 on Thursday.

Ortiz went 0-for-7 and stranded 12 runners — tying Trot Nixon's team record — as his average plummeted to .208. The five-time All-Star dressed slowly while facing his corner locker, then turned around to find a swarm of reporters surrounding him.

"Sorry, guys," he said. "I don't feel like talking today. Just put down, 'Papi stinks.'"

Ortiz has gone 144 at-bats since his last home run on Sept. 22, and is one at-bat from equaling his longest dry spell in the majors.

"A guy like that who's big and strong, he's going to knock out eight home runs in 12 days somehow and he's going to catch up with everybody once he gets that swing down," said Hunter, Ortiz's teammate in Minnesota. "I'm almost 100 percent sure both those injuries have a lot to do with his homerless streak."

"When you have a wrist injury and a knee injury at the same time, it messes up your mechanics and you're trying to figure out ways to hit while you're hurting," Hunter said. "So you've got to tweak your swing — and that's not his swing. But he's going to be fine. I just told him, 'Just go out there and do what you do, and at the end of the season watch what you have.'"

Ortiz averaged 41 home runs and 128 RBIs during his first five seasons with the Red Sox before injuries last season limited him to 23 homers and 89 RBIs in 109 games. He had a career-high 54 homers in 2006, the year after he drove in a career-best 148 runs.

"Everyone goes through stuff like this. I've definitely been



CHRIS CARLSON/AP

Boston's David Ortiz shows his frustration after striking out in the sixth inning of Thursday's game against the Los Angeles Angels. Ortiz was 0-for-7 and stranded 12 runners in Boston's 5-4, 12-inning loss.

through something like that," said teammate Dustin Pedroia, the AL MVP. "We're pulling for him. Hopefully, the corner is right there and he's going to turn it."

Ortiz struck out three times — once with the bases loaded in the fourth — and left the bases loaded again in the 12th against Jason Bulger (1-1) with a dribbler in front of the plate.

"We need David to get going, obviously, and I believe he will," Boston catcher Jason Varitek said. "But the guy makes a great 3-2 pitch to him with the bases loaded and two outs and backdoors a breaking ball, which he hadn't even thrown for a strike yet. That was a pretty good pitcher's pitch."

The Red Sox were 3 for 23 with runners in scoring position and stranded 17 overall despite getting 15 hits.

"We had the right people up at the right times," Varitek said.

Jeter, Matsui back at it

The Associated Press

TORONTO — Derek Jeter and Hideki Matsui made a winning return to the New York Yankees.

Jeter singled home the tying run in the seventh inning and Matsui gave New York the lead with a solo homer in the eighth, helping CC Sabathia beat the Toronto Blue Jays 3-2.

Mariano Rivera worked a perfect ninth for his seventh save as the Yankees finished a 4-2 road trip to get back to .500.

Jeter missed two games with a sore right oblique and Matsui left Tuesday's game after one at-bat with a tight right hamstring.

"You know I don't like watching so it was good to get back out there," Jeter said. "It's been a couple of days. It's a big win for us. We needed that one."

Matsui led off the eighth with his fourth home run, driving a

slider from left-hander Jesse Carlson (0-2) over the wall in right-center.

"When he's swinging the bat well, he can hit lefties or righties. It doesn't make a difference," Jeter said. "That was the difference in the game."

Jeter finished 1-for-5 with an RBI and Matsui went 1-for-3 with a walk.

Sabathia (3-3) allowed five hits in eight innings to win consecutive starts for the first time this season. He walked four, one intentionally, and struck out five as the Yankees took two of three from AL East-leading Toronto.

"I'm just trying to pound the strike zone, getting guys to swing early in the count, keeping the pitch count down and just trying to pick the team up," Sabathia said.

Sabathia, who pitched a four-hit shutout at Baltimore last Fri-

day, improved to 8-3 in 11 career games against the Blue Jays.

Nick Swisher gave the Yankees a 1-0 lead with a bases-loaded walk in the first. Toronto tied it in the fourth on Alex Rios' homer.

With Toronto leading 2-1 in the fifth, John McDonald singled with Rod Barajas on second, but center fielder Brett Gardner threw out Barajas at the plate.

"That play at the plate was probably the biggest play of the game," Sabathia said.

Brian Tallet allowed two runs and four hits with a season-high five walks in six-plus innings for Toronto.

"He (Tallet) gives up a couple of runs against Sabathia and you figure you might have a chance to win that game," Blue Jays manager Cito Gaston said. "But we didn't. We move on."

Visit to K.C. perfect remedy for O's

BY JOHN MARSHALL

The Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — With the losses piling up and injuries mounting, the Baltimore Orioles needed to find some way, any way, to win on the road.

A trip to Kauffman Stadium was all it took.

Cesar Izturis and Nick Markakis each drove in three runs and the Orioles won again in their favorite road ballpark, beating the Kansas City Royals 9-5 Thursday night.

"We were looking to kind of get back on track. We haven't played real well on the road," Orioles manager Dave Trembley said. "This is a 10-day road trip and this is a very good way to start that trip."

Baltimore has won 15 of 18 against Kansas City and is 43-15 against the Royals since 2001, including 24-7 at Kauffman Stadium. The Orioles did it this time with a big night offensively — 12 hits — despite a depleted lineup.

Baltimore also got superb defense from Izturis at shortstop and a just-good-enough start from Jeremy Guthrie (3-3).

Izturis had three RBIs for the first time in four years, Aubrey

Huff homered and Melvin Mora had two RBIs for the Orioles, who won for just the second time in 11 road games overall.

"Tonight, I feel we won almost in spite of me," said Guthrie, who matched a season low with two strikeouts. "But it's nice to get one in the win column."

The Royals had hoped a return to the New K would re-energize them after a miserable California road trip that included five straight losses to the Los Angeles Angels and Oakland Athletics.

Even with 24,431 fans screaming for Girls Night Out, the trip home didn't do any good. And for once, it wasn't the offense's fault.

Billy Butler homered and drove in three runs. David DeJesus broke out of a 1-for-18 slump with a run-scoring double after Coco Crisp's RBI triple in the third inning.

The Royals had 11 hits and got four runs and six hits in five innings off Guthrie after scoring nine runs the previous five games.

What hurt the Royals was pitching.

Kansas City entered with the majors' best ERA at 3.63, but gave up six extra-base hits and walked seven to see its six-game home winning streak end.

Starter Gil Meche (2-4) had another shaky outing against the Orioles, allowing five runs and six hits in 4 1/3 innings. The right-hander hasn't beaten Baltimore since 2005, a span of nine starts, and has allowed 15 runs in 15 1/3 innings over three outings the past two seasons.

Huff got the Orioles started, hitting a solo homer in the fourth inning, the first allowed by Meche this season. Izturis hit a two-run triple in the fifth, followed by Markakis' run-scoring double that chased Meche. Melvin Mora made it 5-2 with a run-scoring single off Robinson Tejeda.

Baltimore kept it going against Tejeda in the sixth inning, getting an RBI single from Izturis and a two-run double by Markakis that made it 8-4.

Guthrie wasn't exactly sharp, allowing two runs in the third inning, nearly blowing a 5-2 lead by giving up a two-run single to Butler in the fifth. Baltimore's offense made up for it with seven runs in the fifth and sixth innings, giving the right-hander his first victory since April 11.

"The thing about Guthrie is he competes," Trembley said. "Even when he doesn't have his best stuff, he's going to compete."

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STARS AND STRIPES

Indians' thumpers blast Rays

BY FRED GOODALL
The Associated Press

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — Victor Martinez had four hits, drove in four runs and raised his batting average to .400.

And that was far from the only thing the last-place Cleveland Indians had to feel good about after Thursday night's 11-7 victory over the Tampa Bay Rays.

"The guys did a real good job offensively. You saw us spraying the ball around the field," Indians manager Eric Wedge said after his 2-3-4 hitters — Asdrubal Cabrera, Martinez and Shin-Soo Choo — went 12 for 15, scored eight runs and drove in nine.

"Asdrubal, what a great night," the manager added. "Victor had a great night. Choo had a great night."

Martinez hit a two-run double off James Shields (3-4) in the fifth, an RBI double off Joe Nelson in the sixth and a run-scoring single off Grant Balfour in the eighth.

Choo's career-best, four-hit night included an RBI double off Shields and a two-run homer off Nelson that made it 9-0 in the sixth. He finished 4 for 5, as did Martinez and Cabrera, in support of Fausto Carmona (2-4), who made it interesting despite being staked to a nine-run lead.

"Every game, every at-bat, we try and make it quality," Choo said. "I'm more focused with runners in scoring position."

Despite the big lead, Carmona couldn't make it through the sixth, when Tampa Bay scored six times.

Limited to just three baserunners in the first five innings, the Rays finally broke through when B.J. Upton singled leading off the sixth. He stole second and third before scoring on a wild pitch.

Willy Aybar and Gabe Gross drove in runs off Carmona, and Tampa Bay pulled within three on Ben Zobrist's three-run homer off Matt Herges.

Coupled with Wednesday's 4-0 shutout of the Chicago White Sox, the Indians have won consecutive games for only the second time this season. They also won on back-to-back days April 15-16.

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Tampa Bay Rays second baseman Akinori Iwamura dives but can't come up with a first-inning single by the Cleveland Indians' Asdrubal Cabrera during Thursday night's game in St. Petersburg, Fla. It was one of four hits for Cabrera in Cleveland's 11-7 victory.

CHRIS O'MEARA/AP



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Major League Baseball statistics

Through May 14

American League

	TEAM BATTING	AB	R	H	HR	RBI	Avg
Toronto	1339 213 385 48 203 288						
Texas	1218 191 349 58 186 279						
Los Angeles	1133 164 315 25 155 278						
Boston	1218 197 339 38 190 278						
Baltimore	1202 184 332 41 175 276						
Minnesota	1187 173 321 31 162 274						
Tampa Bay	1203 189 343 42 193 277						
Cleveland	1258 189 311 56 173 271						
New York	1209 184 326 50 172 270						
Detroit	1112 128 291 36 160 262						
Kansas City	1177 156 303 39 146 257						
Seattle	1200 139 302 29 132 252						
Chicago	1107 136 278 23 132 251						
Oakland	1093 140 262 19 135 240						

INDIVIDUAL BATTING

Based on 115 plate appearances

	AB	R	H	HR	RBI	Avg
VMartinez Cle	140 29 56 7 40 400					
ADJones Bal	127 35 47 8 26 370					
MCabrera Det	123 21 45 8 25 366					
Bartlett TB	124 21 45 5 14 363					
Young Tex	135 23 47 7 16 348					
Markakis Bal	136 34 47 6 33 346					
Longoria TB	137 27 47 11 45 343					
AHill Tor	163 27 55 9 30 337					
Pedroia Bos	134 30 45 1 13 336					
ACabrera Cle	134 28 45 1 19 336					
Kubel Min	119 19 38 5 20 333					
Callaspo KC	115 17 38 2 12 330					
Crawford TB	143 26 47 1 17 329					
Rolen Tor	123 21 40 3 15 325					
KSuzuki Oak	117 17 38 2 15 325					
Lind Tor	137 21 44 6 31 321					
Hunter LAA	122 27 39 9 27 320					
Damon NY	132 27 42 9 26 318					
Cano NY	143 22 45 6 19 315					
Morneau Min	134 26 42 9 29 313					
Bay Bos	122 30 38 10 38 311					
Kinsler Tex	145 26 45 9 28 310					
Brajars Tor	104 12 32 3 21 308					
ISuzuki Sea	121 11 37 2 9 306					
Abreu LAA	121 12 37 0 12 306					
Konero CWS	122 17 37 3 21 303					
Byrd Tex	116 13 35 2 16 302					
Lowell Bos	137 19 41 6 28 299					
Span Min	137 20 41 1 18 299					
Ellsbury Bos	145 19 43 1 12 297					
BRoberts Bal	142 30 42 5 15 296					
Cust Oak	110 20 32 5 21 291					
Choo Cle	122 17 35 4 21 287					
Dye CWS	113 18 32 7 17 283					
Inge Det	113 23 32 9 22 283					
Butler KC	113 18 32 3 16 283					
Teahen KC	128 18 36 4 14 281					
Iwamura TB	121 14 34 0 12 281					
KMorales LAA	118 16 33 5 20 280					
Huff Bal	134 19 37 7 32 276					
Brahyan Sea	109 20 30 8 17 275					
EnChavez Sea	106 11 29 1 8 274					
Jeter NY	137 19 37 4 14 270					
NCruz Tex	126 17 34 7 22 270					
VWells Tor	156 25 42 5 21 269					
Cuddyer Min	123 17 33 3 18 268					
Scutaro Tor	143 32 38 5 18 266					
Rios Tor	155 24 41 4 18 265					
HIMatsu NY	102 10 24 4 13 263					
Polaire Det	105 14 24 0 15 263					
Jacobs KC	111 12 24 2 12 261					
Betancourt Sea	116 7 30 1 12 259					
Granderson Det	136 24 35 9 21 257					
CPena TB	130 24 33 13 32 254					
Crisp KC	127 26 32 3 13 252					
Blalock Tex	119 19 30 10 3 252					
FQuitorrez Sea	103 15 26 3 13 252					
JoLopez Sea	132 17 33 3 19 250					
Burrell TB	108 9 27 1 17 250					
RSweeney Oak	129 18 32 2 8 248					
Peralta Cle	125 14 31 1 15 248					
Swisher NYY	109 22 27 8 22 248					
DeRosa Cle	143 22 35 6 23 245					
Figgins LA	123 21 30 0 7 245					
Ordonez Det	121 14 29 2 14 240					
Holliday Oak	121 15 29 4 23 240					
CDavis Tex	117 21 28 10 20 239					
JDrew Bos	105 19 25 5 18 238					
OCabrera Oak	131 15 31 0 10 237					
BFrancisco Cle	106 16 25 2 9 236					
Kerrick LAA	115 18 27 3 17 235					
Fields CWS	115 13 27 2 12 235					
Quentin CWS	115 18 27 8 18 235					
DeJesus KC	126 13 29 3 15 230					
Sizemore Cle	150 20 34 6 24 227					
Beltre Sea	141 17 32 2 15 227					
Wigginton Bal	113 6 25 2 11 221					
Giambi Oak	103 18 22 3 16 214					
DORTZ Bos	130 14 27 0 15 208					
Teixeira NYY	118 19 24 7 19 203					
Aviles KC	108 9 21 1 8 194					
Navarro TB	106 13 20 1 7 189					
BUpton TB	116 20 0 4 172					

TEAM PITCHING

Based on 4 decisions

	IP	HBB	SO	W	L	ERA
RRamirez Bos	20 7 5 10 4 0 0.45					
Frasor Tor	14 8 1 19 4 0 0.66					
Bannister KC	30 23 12 17 3 1 1.80					
JerWeaver LAA	48 35 10 35 3 1 2.45					
EJackson Det	45 31 10 35 2 2 2.60					
Stewart CWS	41 41 11 25 5 1 1.66					
Bradren Oak	42 16 13 27 3 2 2.79					
Millwood Tex	52 44 11 27 3 2 2.93					
Halladay Tor	61 56 7 29 1 1.95					
Buehrle CWS	45 37 12 30 5 1 3.00					
ClLee Cle	54 63 13 42 2 5 3.00					
Washburn Sea	46 40 13 33 3 2 3.11					
Palmer LAA	27 16 10 16 4 0 3.38					
Dans CWS	34 31 10 31 2 2 3.41					
FHernandez Sea	51 47 15 53 4 2 3.53					
Garza TB	48 31 19 42 3 2 3.56					
Cahill Oak	39 39 20 14 2 2.369					
Sabathia NYY	56 48 20 37 3 3.370					
JShields TB	52 56 15 35 3 4 3.498					
Pettitte NY	45 47 15 25 3 1 4.00					
Uehara Bal	43 41 7 32 2 3 4.01					
Wakefield Bos	45 38 21 27 4 2 4.03					
CWilson Tex	15 16 8 12 2 4 2.40					
Harrison Tex	45 48 13 24 4 2 4.23					
JCle 19 16 8 18 2 3 4.26						
Richmond Tor	40 39 16 31 4 2 4.28					
Porcello Det	34 33 11 20 3 3 4.28					
Verlander Det	50 43 17 63 3 2 4.29					
Blackburn Min	42 49 11 19 2 2 4.32					
Mech KC	47 51 16 38 2 4 4.460					
Galarraga Det	41 39 20 33 3 3 4.61					
Lou LAA	33 43 10 13 2 2 4.64					
Colon CWS	31 33 12 23 2 3 4.88					
Masterson Bos	35 36 14 29 2 4.89					
Slowey Min	40 58 4 27 5 1 4.91					
Padilla Tex	42 40 17 24 2 4.97					
Guthrie Bal	47 53 16 29 3 3 5.21					
Niemann TB	34 39 21 18 3 3 5.35					
Boston	48 47 26 27 2 4 5.70					
Minnesota	5.19 33 17 19 2 1 6					
Baltimore	5.44 310 185 113 223 1 6					
New York	5.53 321 187 137 242 2 7					
Cleveland	5.59 354 197 140 228 1 7					



CHRIS O'MEARA/AP

Cleveland's Victor Martinez had four hits and four RBIs Thursday night in the Indians' 11-7 victory over Tampa Bay. Six weeks into the season, Martinez leads the major leagues with a .400 batting average.

INDIVIDUAL PITCHING

Based on 115 plate appearances

	AB	R	H	HR	RBI	Avg
Votto Cin	101 14 40 4 26 3.74					
Beltre NYY	113 23 49 5 26 3.71					
Hammond Fla	123 23 44 6 19 3.58					
Zimmerman Was	143 28 51 8 26 3.57					
Dunigan StL	116 22 31 3 27 3.56					
Lindstrom StL	106 16 29 8 26 2.74					
Fielder Mil	121 18 33 8 32 2.73					
Ethier LAD	136 24 37 6 27 2.72					

	IP	HBB	SO	W	L	ERA
JSantana NYM	46 31 13 60 4 2 0.78					
Broxton LAD	17 4 5 30 4 0 1.59					
WRodriguez Hou	52 37 15 48 4 2 1.90					
Cueto Cln	47 34 13 36 4 1 1.93					
Jurjens Atl	48 39 17 24 3 2.06					
Haren Ari	56 39 9 56 3 4 2.09					
Billingsley LAD	53 37 24 56 5 1 2.30					
Duke Pit	50 43 11 28 4 3 2.52					
Harang Cln	46 47 10 37 3 2.93					
Volstad Fla	42 32 16 33 2 2.98					
Can SF	4					

Manny says he's sorry

Slugger meets with Dodgers, apologizes for drug suspension

By TIM REYNOLDS
The Associated Press

MIAMI — Manny Ramirez apologized to his Los Angeles Dodgers teammates Friday after being suspended for 50 games for using a banned drug.

The 5- to 10-minute meeting took place at the team's waterfront hotel in South Florida before the Dodgers arrived at the Florida Marlins' stadium to start a three-game weekend series, Los Angeles third baseman Casey Blake said.

The Los Angeles Times first reported that Ramirez had apologized.

Ramirez lives near the Marlins' stadium but is not expected at the ballpark this weekend.

"He knows he made a mistake. I forgive him," Blake said. "It's his business."

Ramirez was suspended May 7. Dodgers owner Frank McCourt met with him twice last weekend in Los Angeles and encouraged Ramirez to apologize to teammates "eyeball to eyeball."

That opportunity came Friday, when the Dodgers saw their teammate for the first time since the suspension.

"I don't think anyone was really looking for" an apology, Blake said. "It was something he wanted to do, and I think it was heartfelt."

Ramirez spoke for a few minutes, and teammates — other than greeting him and shaking his hand — did not ask questions, said Blake, who declined to say what words Ramirez used during his address to the Dodgers.

"I think in Manny's case, it made him feel better just to get in front of the team," Blake said. "I think it was kind of a big load off his shoulders just to greet the team again."

A person familiar with the details of the suspension said last week that Ramirez used the female fertility drug HCG (human chorionic gonadotropin). HCG is popular among steroid users because it can mitigate the side effects of ending a cycle of the drugs. Ramirez has said he did not take steroids and was given medication by a doctor that contained a banned substance.

A 12-time All-Star, Ramirez played in 27 of the Dodgers' first 29 games, batting .348 with six homers to help them get off to their best record since 1983. The Dodgers lost four of their first five games after Ramirez was suspended, but they still lead the NL West. Ramirez led Los Angeles into last year's playoffs after joining the team at the trade deadline from the Boston Red Sox. He could be eligible to return July 3, barring rainouts or postponements.

"He was a guy concerned about his team and his teammates," Blake said. "I know he feels bad. Everyone knows how he's feeling. It was just nice to see him again and I think it was nice for him to see us again."

AP baseball writer Ronald Blum contributed to this report.

Sports briefs

Wayman Tisdale dies of cancer at 44

The Associated Press

TULSA, Okla. — Wayman Tisdale, a three-time All-American at Oklahoma who played 12 seasons in the NBA, died after a two-year battle with cancer. He was 44.

Tisdale died Friday morning at St. John Medical Center, hospital spokeswoman Joy McGill said.

He learned of a cancerous cyst below his right knee after breaking his leg in a fall at his home in Los Angeles on Feb. 8, 2007. His leg was amputated last August. Tisdale made several public appearances since, including April 7 at an Oklahoma City Thunder game.

Tisdale, a 6-foot-9 forward from Tulsa with a soft left-handed touch, played in the NBA with the Indiana Pacers, Sacramento Kings and Phoenix Suns. He averaged 15.3 points for his career. He was on the U.S. team that won the gold medal in the 1984 Olympics.

After his basketball career, he became an award-winning jazz musician, with several albums making the top 10 on the Billboard charts. Last month, he was chosen for induction into the National Collegiate Basketball Hall of Fame.

Tisdale's death was announced on the Oklahoma Senate floor Friday by Senate Majority Leader Todd Lamb, who led the chamber in prayer.

"Whether you're a Cowboy or a Sooner, Oklahoma has lost a great ambassador," Lamb said. "He was a gifted musician, a gifted athlete and he just wore that well wherever he went."

Tisdale was the first freshman to be a first-team All-American since freshmen were allowed to play again in 1971-72.

Tisdale played on an Olympic team that sailed to the gold medal in Los Angeles, winning its final game by 32 points. The squad was coached by Bob Knight and featured Patrick Ewing, Michael Jordan, Sam Perkins and Chris Mullin.

Tisdale averaged 25.6 points and 10.1 rebounds during three seasons with the Sooners, earning Big Eight Conference player of the year each season.

He holds Oklahoma's career scoring record with 2,661 points and career rebounding record with 1,048. Tisdale also owns the school's game scoring mark, a 61-point outing against Texas-San Antonio as a sophomore, along with career records in points per game, field goals and free throws made and attempted.

ESPN: Favre asks doctor about arm

MINNEAPOLIS — With the Minnesota Vikings eagerly waiting, Brett Favre has sought advice from a noted surgeon about his beat-up throwing arm, according to the latest report on the quarterback's status.

Citing an anonymous source, ESPN.com reported that Favre consulted Dr. James Andrews about options for healing the partially torn biceps tendon that has caused pain in his right shoulder.

Favre's agent, Bus Cook, didn't immediately return repeated phone calls from The Associated Press. Cook has insisted in interviews this month that Favre, for now, remains retired.

Vikings officials were unavailable for comment Friday.

Burton wins Pit Crew Challenge

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Jeff Burton's team won NASCAR's Pit Crew Challenge on Thursday, beating Reed Sorenson's crew in record time in the final round.

The No. 31 Chevrolet's seven-member team changed four tires, put in gas and pushed the car 40 yards in an event-best 22.115 seconds to collect the \$70,100 first prize.

Burton's team, which beat Denny Ham-



Wayman Tisdale, a star at Oklahoma who played 12 seasons in the NBA and also was an award-winning jazz musician, died Friday after a two-year battle with cancer. He was 44.

AP

lin's crew in the semifinals, will get to make the first pit-row selection for Saturday's All-Star race at Lowe's Motor Speedway.

Fl teams fail to reach deal

LONDON — Formula One teams failed to resolve the dispute over a proposed budget cap in a meeting with FIA president Max Mosley.

Team owners met with Mosley and F1 boss Bernie Ecclestone at a London hotel on Friday but emerged without a deal.

Mosley called the meeting friendly but said the teams plan to come up with a counter proposal. "We are prepared to listen to what they have to say," he said.

Mosley also said Ferrari filed an injunction in a French court to block the proposed \$60-million budget cap.

Several teams, including Ferrari, have threatened to withdraw from next year's championship if the budget cap is introduced.

Bengals receiver has another name

CINCINNATI — Oh-oh, Ocho. The Cincinnati Bengals' top receiver has yet another name.

The NFL had agreed to let the player formerly known as Chad Johnson wear his new name on the back of his jersey this season. There's one catch for the receiver: It's not exactly how he wanted it.

Instead of Ocho Cinco, he'll be Ochocinco.

The receiver legally changed his name in Florida last August. He asked the league and the media to call him Chad Ocho Cinco, a nickname he had adopted referring to his No. 85.

The Bengals complied, but the NFL balked. It said the receiver would have to pay for the large inventory of "Johnson" jerseys that Reebok stocked for the season — ones that would be a tough sell — before he could switch. The receiver declined, choosing to play the season under his old name.

The league has agreed to let him wear his new name this year, but it will be rendered as Ochocinco because that's how he wrote it when he submitted his name-change form in Florida.

"It's his legal name," AFC information manager Corry Rush said Thursday.

The receiver said last year that he wanted his name to be Ocho Cinco. Neither he nor his agent returned phone messages Thursday to discuss the name being one word instead of two. He was still selling shirts and other gear under the Ocho Cinco name on his Web site.

Bills' Lynch appeals suspension

BUFFALO, N.Y. — Buffalo Bills running back Marshawn Lynch has filed an appeal with the NFL contesting his suspension without pay for the first three games of the season.

The NFL confirmed Thursday that an ap-

peal was filed, but did not provide details, including when the appeal might be heard. Lynch's agent, Doug Hendrickson, did not return phone and e-mail messages.

Lynch was suspended last month for violating the league's personal conduct policy after he pleaded guilty in March to a misdemeanor gun charge in Los Angeles. He was sentenced to 80 hours of community service and three years' probation.

The charge was a result of the player's arrest on Feb. 11, when police in Culver City, Calif., searched a parked car Lynch was in and found a 9mm semiautomatic handgun inside a backpack in the trunk. Police also found four marijuana cigarettes in the car, but no drug charges were filed.

Lynch apologized for his actions and anticipated he would be suspended after meeting with NFL commissioner Roger Goodell.

It was Lynch's second run-in with the law following a hit-and-run accident in Buffalo last May. A month later, he pleaded guilty to a traffic violation and admitted driving off after striking a female pedestrian with his car near Buffalo's downtown bar district.

He was not disciplined by the league following the accident.

Appeals court sides with Redskins

WASHINGTON — A federal appeals court sided with the Washington Redskins against a group of American Indians who say the football team's trademark is racially offensive.

The decision issued Friday by the U.S. Court of Appeals in Washington doesn't address the main issue in the 17-year-old case of whether the trademark is racist. It upholds the lower court's decision in favor of the football team on a legal technicality.

The court agreed that the seven American Indians who challenged the trademark waited too long to sue over the trademark issued in 1967.

North Dakota nickname, logo in peril

DICKINSON, N.D. — North Dakota's Board of Higher Education has agreed to drop the University of North Dakota's Fighting Sioux nickname and Indian head logo, a move intended to resolve a decades-long campus dispute about whether the name demeans American Indians.

The name and logo, which is a profile of an American Indian man with feathers and streaks of paint on his face, could still be saved if North Dakota's Standing Rock and Spirit Lake Sioux tribes agree by Oct. 1 to give the university permission to use them for at least 30 years.

However, tribal officials said that possibility is remote. Unless the name and logo receive tribal endorsement, they will be retired for good on Aug. 1, 2010.

The board, which met Thursday at Dickinson State University, voted 8-0 to retire the logo and nickname.

Phelps cruises to finals in return

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Michael Phelps is back.

The Olympic champion easily qualified for the finals of two events Friday morning in the Charlotte Ultraswim, his first meet since winning eight gold medals in the Beijing Games.

Phelps touched second in the last heat of the 200-meter freestyle at 1 minute, 50.46 seconds, and came back about an hour later to win the final heat of the 100 butterfly in 53.41. In both events, he had the third-fastest time overall, advancing to the evening "A" finals.

This is the first meet for which Phelps was eligible since completing a three-month suspension. He was disciplined by USA Swimming after he was photographed using a marijuana pipe.

Walker delivers KO as 'Canes bounce Bruins

Four days after controversial punch, forward scores in OT to dispatch top seed in Game 7

By HOWARD ULMAN
The Associated Press

BOSTON — Scott Walker approached with an open hand instead of a clenched fist. This time Aaron Ward saw it coming.

The latest gesture — the traditional post-series handshake — probably was more painful to the Boston Bruins defenseman than the punch to his face.

Walker shook hands with the Bruins minutes after scoring the Carolina Hurricanes' winning goal 18:46 into overtime Thursday night and four days after knocking Ward to the ice.

"Obviously, I apologized for it again," Walker said after Carolina's 3-2 victory in Game 7 sent it to the Eastern Conference finals starting Monday night in Pittsburgh against the Penguins. "It was something that happened really quick. I am not going to beat it to death."

"They were classy and they all shook my hand."

It was the same hand that lifted the puck over goalie Tim Thomas and ended the season for the Bruins, who took little comfort in rebounding from a 3-1 series deficit.

"It doesn't really matter now, though. The season's over," said Boston's Shawn Thornton, who wasn't more upset because it was Walker who scored. "It doesn't matter who puts it in the net."

The Bruins had high hopes after finishing with the best record in the East and sweeping the Montreal Canadiens in the first round. They beat sixth-seeded Carolina in the opener but were outscored 10-3 in losing the next three games.

Boston won the fifth game 4-0. But near the end of it as Ward and Matt Cullen faced each other during a stop in play, Walker, who had more than 100 penalty minutes in five of his 14 seasons, dropped his right glove then dropped the unsuspecting Ward.

He received an automatic suspension, but the NHL rescinded that and fined him \$2,500 instead, a decision that upset the Bruins.

"Scott Walker is just not afraid of anybody," Hurricanes coach Paul Maurice said. "More times than

not I've had to go to him over the course of the year and tell him you're not allowed to fight that guy."

His physical play is one of the greatest assets for a forward who scored his first playoff goal in 25 games.

"I just went to the net and whacked one in," Walker said. "Didn't take much skill."

Thomas stopped Ray Whitney's shot with his upper body, and the puck dropped in front of him. Walker shot just as the goalie reached out with his stick, too late to stop Walker from putting the puck over Thomas' left shoulder.

"The rebound went up in the air, couldn't completely control it," Thomas said. "Before I knew it, he'd already whacked at it."

The Hurricanes had already won a dramatic Game 7 in the first round with two goals in the final 80 seconds against the New Jersey Devils. They were forced into another one by a 4-2 loss in Carolina on Tuesday night.

Boston led 1-0 on Byron Bitz's goal at 7:42 of the first period. Rod Brind'Amour tied it six minutes later, and Sergei Samsonov gave the Hurricanes a 2-1 lead at 7:45 of the second period.

Milan Lucic made it 2-2 at 6:19 of the third. But the Bruins had run out of comebacks.

Boston has lost all 21 series in which it's trailed 3-1. Carolina has won six consecutive playoff series, starting in 2006 when it hoisted the Stanley Cup. The last four have gone seven games.

But the Penguins have plenty of firepower with Sidney Crosby and Evgeni Malkin.

"Just because we won these series doesn't mean we are going to change our approach against Pittsburgh," Maurice said. "If we try to trade goals with them, it will be a short series."

Walker showed, though, that big goals can come from unlikely players.

"We knew it would be a tough night for Scotty coming back to this building," Hurricanes goalie Cam Ward said. "He's such a valuable player to this hockey team, and it's nice to see he was rewarded."

Walker's goal was the game-winner in overtime of Game 7 in the Eastern Conference semifinal series against the Boston Bruins on Thursday night in Boston. The Hurricanes won 3-2.



CHARLES KRUPA/AP

NHL scoreboard

Playoffs

FIRST ROUND (Best-of-seven)

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Boston 4, Montreal 0

Boston 4, Montreal 2

Boston 5, Montreal 1

Boston 4, Montreal 2

Boston 4, Montreal 1

Washington 4, N.Y. Rangers 3

N.Y. Rangers 4, Washington 3

N.Y. Rangers 1, Washington 0

Washington 4, N.Y. Rangers 0

N.Y. Rangers 2, Washington 1

Washington 4, N.Y. Rangers 0

Washington 5, N.Y. Rangers 3

Washington 2, N.Y. Rangers 1

Carolina 4, New Jersey 3

New Jersey 4, Carolina 1

Carolina 2, New Jersey 1, OT

New Jersey 3, Carolina 2, OT

Carolina 4, New Jersey 3

New Jersey 1, Carolina 0

Carolina 4, New Jersey 0

Carolina 4, New Jersey 3

Pittsburgh 4, Philadelphia 2

Pittsburgh 4, Philadelphia 1

Pittsburgh 3, Philadelphia 2, OT

Philadelphia 6, Pittsburgh 3

Pittsburgh 3, Philadelphia 1

Philadelphia 3, Pittsburgh 0

Pittsburgh 5, Philadelphia 3

Western Conference

Anaheim 4, San Jose 2

Anaheim 2, San Jose 0

Anaheim 3, San Jose 2

San Jose 4, Anaheim 3

Anaheim 4, San Jose 0

San Jose 3, Anaheim 2, OT

Anaheim 4, San Jose 1

Detroit 4, Columbus 0

Detroit 4, Columbus 1

Detroit 4, Columbus 0

Detroit 4, Columbus 1

Detroit 6, Columbus 5

Vancouver 4, St. Louis 0

Vancouver 2, St. Louis 1

Vancouver 3, St. Louis 0

Vancouver 3, St. Louis 2

Vancouver 3, St. Louis 2, OT

Chicago 4, Calgary 2

Chicago 3, Calgary 2, OT

Chicago 3, Calgary 2

Calgary 4, Chicago 2

Calgary 6, Chicago 4

Chicago 5, Calgary 1

Chicago 4, Calgary 2

CONFERENCE SEMIFINALS (Best-of-seven)

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Boston vs. Carolina

Boston 4, Carolina 1

Carolina 3, Boston, 0

Carolina 3, Boston, 2, OT

Carolina 4, Boston 1

Boston 4, Carolina 0

Boston 4, Carolina 2

Thursday: Carolina 3, Boston 2, OT, Carolina wins series 4-3

Pittsburgh 4, Washington 3

Washington 3, Pittsburgh 2

Washington 4, Pittsburgh 3

Pittsburgh 3, Washington 2, OT

Pittsburgh 5, Washington 3

Pittsburgh 4, Washington 3, OT

Washington 5, Pittsburgh 4, OT

Pittsburgh 6, Washington 2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Detroit vs. Anaheim

Detroit 3, Anaheim 2

Anaheim 4, Detroit 3, 3OT

Anaheim 2, Detroit 1

Detroit 6, Anaheim 3

Detroit 4, Anaheim 1

Anaheim 2, Detroit 1

Thursday: Detroit 4, Anaheim 3, Detroit wins series 4-3

Chicago 4, Vancouver 2

Vancouver 5, Chicago 3

Chicago 6, Vancouver 3

Vancouver 3, Chicago 1

Chicago 2, Vancouver 1

Chicago 4, Vancouver 2

Chicago 7, Vancouver 5

CONFERENCE FINALS

(Best-of-seven)

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Carolina vs. Pittsburgh

Monday: Carolina at Pittsburgh

Thursday, May 21: Carolina at Pittsburgh

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Chicago vs. Detroit

Sunday: Chicago at Detroit

Tuesday: Chicago at Detroit

Friday, May 22: Detroit at Chicago

Sunday, May 24: Detroit at Chicago

Wednesday, May 27: Chicago at Detroit*

Saturday, May 30: Detroit at Chicago*

Monday, June 1: Chicago at Detroit,*

*if necessary

Thursday

Red Wings 4, Ducks 3

Anaheim 0 2 1-3

Detroit 1 2 1-4

First Period — 1, Detroit, Hudler 4 (Franzen, Zetterberg), 15:43 (pp).

Second Period — 2, Detroit, Helm 2 (Hossa), 1:17, 3, Anaheim, Selanne 4 (Perry, S.Niedermayer), 14:50, 4, Detroit, Samuelsson 3 (Datsyuk, Filppula), 16:23, 5, Anaheim, Perry 8 (Pronger, Selanne), 17:12 (pp).

Third Period — 6, Anaheim, Ryan 5 (Perry, S.Niedermayer), 7:37, 7, Detroit, Cleary 3 (Zetterberg, Lidstrom), 17:00.

Shots on Goal — Anaheim 6-14-7-27.

Detroit 17-8-15-40.

Power-play opportunities — Anaheim 1 of 5; Detroit 1 of 5.

Goalies — Anaheim, Hiller, 7-6-0 (40 shots-36 saves). Detroit, Osgood 8-3-0 (27-24).

A — 20,066 (20,066). T — 2:31.

Hurricanes 3, Bruins 2 (OT)

Carolina 1 1 0 1-3

Boston 1 0 1 0-2

First Period — 1, Boston, Bitz 1 (Krejci, Rydler), 7:42, 2, Carolina, Brind'Amour 1 (Seidenberg, Pitkkanen), 13:59.

Second Period — 3, Carolina, Samsonov 4 (Pitkkanen, Kaberle), 7:45.

Third Period — 4, Boston, Lucic 3 (Savard, Kessel), 6:19.

Overtime — 5, Carolina, Walker 1 (Whitney, Seidenberg), 18:46.

Shots on Goal — Carolina 10-10-9-8-37.

Boston 11-6-11-8-36.

Power-play opportunities — Carolina 0 of 2; Boston 0 of 4.

Goalies — Carolina, C.Ward 8-6-0 (36 shots-34 saves). Boston, Thomas 7-4-0 (37-34).

A — 17,565 (17,565). T — 3:13.

Red Wings defeat Ducks on Cleary's goal in Game 7

By LARRY LAGE

The Associated Press

DETROIT — The Detroit Red Wings were pushed to the brink of elimination on home ice by the Anaheim Ducks.

Dan Cleary came through, though, scoring a tiebreaking goal with 3 minutes left that lifted Detroit to a 4-3 victory on Thursday night that sent the defending Stanley Cup champions to the Western Conference finals for the third straight year.

"Most teams that have won the Stanley Cup don't even get here," Red Wings coach Mike Babcock said. "For us to be in this situation is a real positive, but we have a hungry Chicago team waiting for us."

Detroit will host the Blackhawks in Game 1 on Sunday, matching up the Original Six teams in the playoffs for the first time since the conference finals in 1995.

"It should be fun," Babcock said.

Before Detroit did it, Colorado was the most recent NHL team to reach the conference finals after

hoisting the Cup. The Avalanche lost to Detroit 7-0 in the deciding game in 2002.

The previous two Cup champions met for the third time since the NHL expanded in 1967, and all three series went the distance. The Edmonton Oilers needed overtime to get past the Calgary Flames in 1991, and the Montreal Canadiens beat Boston by two goals in 1971.

Unlike those winners, second-seeded Detroit was at home against eighth-seeded Anaheim, which knocked off the top-seeded San Jose Sharks in the first round.

Five games were decided by a goal, including Game 2 in triple overtime.

"It was the best series I've been in," Babcock said.

Anaheim's Jonas Hiller had a lot to do with the competitiveness, making 36 saves in the finale.

"What made this series so hard and what people don't understand, the people that have won know what it takes to win," Babcock said. "That's what made them so hard to get rid of."

SPORTS



Red Wings, Hurricanes
win do-or-die games
to advance, Page 47

NBA PLAYOFFS: CONFERENCE SEMIFINALS

■ Game 6: Rockets 95, Lakers 80, series tied 3-3

■ Game 6: Magic 83, Celtics 75, series tied 3-3



PHELAN M. EBENHACK/AP

Orlando Magic center Dwight Howard, left, and Boston Celtics center Kendrick Perkins get up close and personal while battling for a rebound Thursday night.

It'll be Magnificent 7s

Rockets humble Lakers again, force deciding game

By CHRIS DUNCAN
The Associated Press

HOUSTON — The Houston Rockets keep surprising everyone but themselves, and now they've got a chance to pull off the ultimate stunner: knocking out the Los Angeles Lakers.

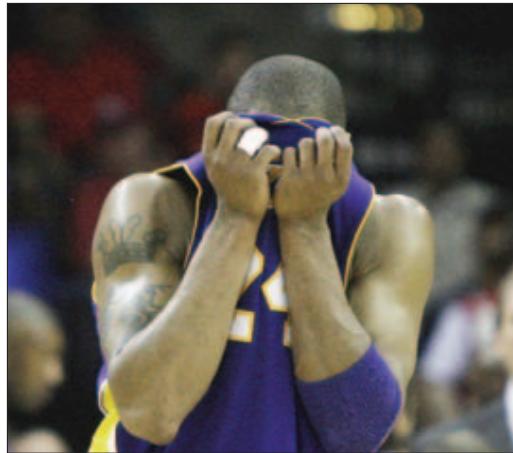
Aaron Brooks scored 26 points, and Luis Scola added 24 points and 12 rebounds as the scrappy, undermanned Rockets pushed the Lakers to the limit in their Western Conference semifinal series with a 95-80 victory in Game 6 on Thursday night.

Reserve Carl Landry scored 15 as the Rockets built another huge lead in the first half, then fought off a Lakers rally to force Game 7 on Sunday at the Staples Center in Los Angeles.

"For the last two days, all I've heard is that we weren't going back to L.A.," Houston coach Rick Adelman said. "Our guys in the locker room didn't believe that."

Kobe Bryant scored 32 points and Pau Gasol added 14 points and 11 rebounds for Los Angeles, which lost for only

SEE ROCKETS ON PAGE 38



Los Angeles Lakers guard Kobe Bryant, who scored 32 points, wipes the sweat off his face during the final minutes of Thursday night's game against the Houston Rockets. Bryant let his frustration boil over during the loss and was called for a technical foul.

Howard stars as Magic take Celtics to the limit

By ANTONIO GONZALEZ
The Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. — The Boston Celtics are headed home for a do-or-die game after failing to wrap up a series in Game 6.

They're getting used to that pattern.

Dwight Howard had 23 points and 22 rebounds, and the Orlando Magic overcame a poor shooting night to beat the Celtics 83-75 on Thursday and force a decisive game in the Eastern Conference semifinals.

The Celtics also failed to close out Chicago in Game 6 of their first-round series, a triple-overtime epic, but they never were in trouble in Game 7. Boston will go the distance in each of its first two series for the second successive year.

"We're comfortable with Game 7s," forward Paul Pierce said. "A lot of players in this league have never played a Game 7 in this league, knowing that if you lose, you go home. We're a confident group. But we're not an overconfident group, because you have to go out there

SEE MAGIC ON PAGE 38

Manny apologizes to Dodgers teammates for drug ban Page 46

